

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
28 June 2001 (28.06.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/46394 A2

(51) International Patent Classification : C12N 9/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/31736

(22) International Filing Date:
21 December 2000 (21.12.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/173,255 21 December 1999 (21.12.1999) US
60/175,766 28 December 1999 (28.12.1999) US
60/178,078 25 January 2000 (25.01.2000) US
60/179,301 31 January 2000 (31.01.2000) US

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(81) Designated States (national): AF, AG, AL, AM, AN, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MAMMALIAN PROTEIN PHOSPHATASES



6394 A2

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NO, NZ, PL, PL, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TL, TM,
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW

- (84) **Designated States (regional):** ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KI, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SI, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW); Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM); European patent (AL, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, SE, TR); OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NI, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

Without intervention, it is to be published as a report, and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

MAMMALIAN PROTEIN PHOSPHATASES

The present invention claims priority on provisional application serial nos. 60/173,255, 60/178,078, 60/179,301, 60/175,766, (and the provisional application serial no. represented by Sugan docket no. "Cel_16"), all of which are hereby
5 incorporated by reference in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to phosphatase polypeptides, nucleotide sequences encoding the phosphatase polypeptides, as well as various products and
10 methods useful for the diagnosis and treatment of various phosphatase-related diseases and conditions.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The following description of the background of the invention is provided to
15 aid in understanding the invention, but is not admitted to be or to describe prior art to the invention.

Cellular signal transduction is a fundamental mechanism whereby external stimuli that regulate diverse cellular processes are relayed to the interior of cells. One of the key biochemical mechanisms of signal transduction involves the

moiety of serine, threonine and tyrosine residues. These kinases largely fall into two groups: those specific for phosphorylating serines and threonines, and those specific for phosphorylating tyrosines.

The phosphorylation state of a given substrate is also regulated by the protein phosphatases, a class of proteins responsible for removal of the phosphate group added to a given substrate by a protein kinase. The protein phosphatases can also be classified as being specific for either serine/threonine or tyrosine. Some members of this family are able to dephosphorylate only tyrosine, and are known as the "protein tyrosine phosphatases" ("PTP"); while others are able to dephosphorylate tyrosine as well as serine and threonine, and are named, "dual-specificity phosphatases" ("DSP"); and a third family dephosphorylates only serine or threonine ("STP") – as disclosed by Fauman *et al.*, *Trends Biochem. Sci.* 1996 Nov;21(11):413-7; and Martell *et al.*, *Mol. Cells.* 1998 Feb 28;8(1): 2-11. These proteins share a 250-300 amino acid domain that comprises the common catalytic core structure. Related phosphatases are clustered into distinct subfamilies of tyrosine phosphatases, dual-specificity phosphatases, and myotubularin-like phosphatases (Fauman *et al.*, *supra*; and Martell *et al.*, *supra*).

Phosphatases possess a variety of non-catalytic domains that are believed to interact with upstream regulators. Examples include proline-rich domains for interaction with SH3-containing proteins, or specific domains for interaction with Rac, Rho, and Rab small G-proteins. These interactions may provide a mechanism for cross-talk between distinct biochemical pathways in response to external stimuli such as the activation of a variety of cell surface receptors, including tyrosine kinases, cytokine receptors, TNF receptor, Fas, T cell receptors, CD28, or CD40.

Phosphatases have been implicated as regulating a variety of cellular responses, including response to growth factors, cytokines and hormones, oxidative-, UV-, or irradiation-related stress pathways, inflammatory signals (*e.g.* TNF α), apoptotic stimuli (*e.g.* Fas), T and B cell costimulation, the control of cytoskeletal architecture, and cellular transformation (*see THE PROTEIN PHOSPHATASE FACTBOOK*, Tonks *et al.*, Academic Press, 2000).

A need, therefore, exists to identify additional phosphatases whose inappropriate activity may lead to cancer or other disorders so that appropriate treatments for those disorders might also be identified.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following abbreviations are used to describe characteristics of the phosphatases according to the invention:

DsPTP	Dual specificity protein phosphatase
DUS	Dual specificity phosphatase
MKP	MAP Kinase phosphatase
MTM	Myotubular myopathy (myotubularin) phosphatase
PTP	Protein Tyrosine Phosphatase
PTEN	Phosphatase and tensin homolog

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Through the use of a "motif extraction" bioinformatics script, the named inventors have identified certain mammalian members of the phosphatase family, which are disclosed herein. The invention provides a partial or complete sequence of 12 phosphatases, as well as the classification, predicted or deduced protein structure, and a strategy for elucidating the biologic and therapeutic relevance of

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these proteins. These novel proteins include: eight (8) MAP kinase phosphatase enzymes ("MKPs"), which are members of the DSP family; two (2) phosphatases from the STP family; and two (2) phosphatases from the PTP family. The

classification of novel proteins as belonging to established families has proven highly accurate, not only in predicting motifs present in the remaining non-catalytic portion of each protein, but also in the regulation, substrates, and signaling pathways to these proteins.

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NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

By "isolated" in reference to nucleic acid is meant a polymer of 10
5 (preferably 21, more preferably 39, most preferably 75) or more nucleotides conjugated to each other, including DNA and RNA that is isolated from a natural source or that is synthesized as the sense or complementary antisense strand. In certain embodiments of the invention, longer nucleic acids are preferred, for example those of 300, 600, 900, 1200, 1500, or more nucleotides and/or those
10 having at least 50%, 60%, 75%, 90%, 95% or 99% identity to a sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12.

The isolated nucleic acid of the present invention is unique in the sense that
15 it is not found in a pure or separated state in nature. Use of the term "isolated" indicates that a naturally occurring sequence has been removed from its normal cellular (*i.e.*, chromosomal) environment. Thus, the sequence may be in a cell-free solution or placed in a different cellular environment. The term does not imply that the sequence is the only nucleotide chain present, but that it is essentially free (about
20 90 - 95% pure at least) of non-nucleotide material naturally associated with it, and thus is distinguished from isolated chromosomes.

By the use of the term "enriched" in reference to nucleic acid is meant that the specific DNA or RNA sequence constitutes a significantly higher fraction (2- to 5-fold) of the total DNA or RNA present in the cells or solution of interest than in
25 normal or diseased cells or in the cells from which the sequence was taken. This could be caused by a person by preferential reduction in the amount of other DNA or RNA present, or by a preferential increase in the amount of the specific DNA or RNA sequence, or by a combination of the two. However, it should be noted that enriched does not imply that there are no other DNA or RNA sequences present, just
30 that the relative amount of the sequence of interest has been significantly increased.

The term "significant" is used to indicate that the level of increase is useful to the person making such an increase, and generally means an increase relative to other nucleic acids of about at least 2-fold, more preferably at least 5- to 10-fold or even more. The term also does not imply that there is no DNA or RNA from other sources. The DNA from other sources may, for example, comprise DNA from a yeast or bacterial genome, or a cloning vector such as pUC19. This term distinguishes from naturally occurring events, such as viral infection, or tumor-type growths, in which the level of one mRNA may be naturally increased relative to other species of mRNA. That is, the term is meant to cover only those situations in which a person has intervened to elevate the proportion of the desired nucleic acid.

It is also advantageous for some purposes that a nucleotide sequence be in purified form. The term "purified" in reference to nucleic acid does not require absolute purity (such as a homogeneous preparation). Instead, it represents an indication that the sequence is relatively more pure than in the natural environment (compared to the natural level this level should be at least 2- to 5-fold greater, *e.g.*, in terms of mg/mL). Individual clones isolated from a cDNA library may be purified to electrophoretic homogeneity. The claimed DNA molecules obtained from these clones could be obtained directly from total DNA or from total RNA. The cDNA clones are not naturally occurring, but rather are preferably obtained via manipulation of a partially purified naturally occurring substance (messenger RNA). The construction of a cDNA library from mRNA involves the creation of a synthetic substance (cDNA) and pure individual cDNA clones can be isolated from the synthetic library by clonal selection of the cells carrying the cDNA library. Thus, the process which includes the construction of a cDNA library from mRNA and isolation of distinct cDNA clones yields an approximately 10^6 -fold purification of the native message. Thus, purification of at least one order of magnitude, preferably two or three orders, and more preferably four or five orders of magnitude is expressly contemplated.

amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. In certain aspects, polypeptides of 100, 200, 300, 400, 5 450, 500, 550, 600, 700, 800, 900 or more amino acids are preferred. The phosphatase polypeptide can be encoded by a full-length nucleic acid sequence or any portion of the full-length nucleic acid sequence, so long as a functional activity of the polypeptide is retained. It is well known in the art that due to the degeneracy of the genetic code numerous different nucleic acid sequences can code for the same amino acid sequence. Equally, it is also well known in the art that conservative 10 changes in amino acid can be made to arrive at a protein or polypeptide which retains the functionality of the original. Such substitutions may include the replacement of an amino acid by a residue having similar physicochemical properties, such as substituting one aliphatic residue (Ile, Val, Leu or Ala) for another, or substitution between basic residues Lys and Arg, acidic residues Glu and 15 Asp, amide residues Gln and Asn, hydroxyl residues Ser and Tyr, or aromatic residues Phe and Tyr. Further information regarding making amino acid exchanges which have only slight, if any, effects on the overall protein can be found in Bowie *et al.*, *Science*, 1990, 247:1306-1310, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety including any figures, tables, or drawings. In all cases, all permutations are 20 intended to be covered by this disclosure.

The amino acid sequence of the phosphatase peptide of the invention will be substantially similar to a sequence having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or the 25 corresponding full-length amino acid sequence, or fragments thereof.

A sequence that is substantially similar to a sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, 30

SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24 will preferably have at least 90% identity (more preferably at least 95% and most preferably 99-100%) to the sequence.

By "identity" is meant a property of sequences that measures their similarity or relationship. Identity is measured by dividing the number of identical residues by the total number of residues and gaps and multiplying the product by 100. "Gaps" are spaces in an alignment that are the result of additions or deletions of amino acids. Thus, two copies of exactly the same sequence have 100% identity, but sequences that are less highly conserved, and have deletions, additions, or replacements, may have a lower degree of identity. Those skilled in the art will recognize that several computer programs are available for determining sequence identity using standard parameters, for example Gapped BLAST or PSI-BLAST (Altschul, *et al.* (1997) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 25:3389-3402), BLAST (Altschul, *et al.* (1990) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410), and Smith-Waterman (Smith, *et al.* (1981) *J. Mol. Biol.* 147:195-197). Preferably, the default settings of these programs will be employed, but those skilled in the art recognize whether these settings need to be changed and know how to make the changes.

"Similarity" is measured by dividing the number of identical residues plus the number of conservatively substituted residues (see Bowie, *et al. Science*, 1999 247:1306-1310, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, including any drawings, figures, or tables) by the total number of residues and gaps and multiplying the product by 100.

In preferred embodiments, the invention features isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid molecules encoding a phosphatase polypeptide comprising a nucleotide sequence that: (a) encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

naturally occurring phosphatase polypeptide; (d) encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, except that it lacks one or more, but not all, of the domains selected from the group consisting of an N-terminal domain, a catalytic domain, a C-terminal catalytic domain, a C-terminal domain, a coiled-coil structure region, a proline-rich region, a spacer region, and a C-terminal tail; and (e) is the complement of the nucleotide sequence of (d).

10 The term "complement" refers to two nucleotides that can form multiple favorable interactions with one another. For example, adenine is complementary to thymine as they can form two hydrogen bonds. Similarly, guanine and cytosine are complementary since they can form three hydrogen bonds. A nucleotide sequence is the complement of another nucleotide sequence if all of the nucleotides of the first
15 sequence are complementary to all of the nucleotides of the second sequence.

 Various low or high stringency hybridization conditions may be used depending upon the specificity and selectivity desired. These conditions are well known to those skilled in the art. Under stringent hybridization conditions only highly complementary nucleic acid sequences hybridize. Preferably, such
20 conditions prevent hybridization of nucleic acids having more than 1 or 2 mismatches out of 20 contiguous nucleotides, more preferably, such conditions prevent hybridization of nucleic acids having more than 1 or 2 mismatches out of 50 contiguous nucleotides, most preferably, such conditions prevent hybridization of nucleic acids having more than 1 or 2 mismatches out of 100 contiguous
25 nucleotides. In some instances, the conditions may prevent hybridization of nucleic acids having more than 5 mismatches in the full-length sequence.

 By stringent hybridization assay conditions is meant hybridization assay conditions at least as stringent as the following: hybridization in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 50 mM NaH_2PO_4 , pH 6.8, 0.5% SDS, 0.1 mg/mL sonicated salmon sperm
30 DNA, and 5X Denhardt's solution at 42 °C overnight; washing with 2X SSC, 0.1%

SDS at 45 °C; and washing with 0.2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 45 °C. Under some of the most stringent hybridization assay conditions, the second wash can be done with 0.1X SSC at a temperature up to 70 °C (Berger *et al.* (1987) Guide to Molecular Cloning Techniques pg 421, hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety including any figures, tables, or drawings.). However, other applications may require the use of conditions falling between these sets of conditions. Methods of determining the conditions required to achieve desired hybridizations are well known to those with ordinary skill in the art, and are based on several factors, including but not limited to, the sequences to be hybridized and the samples to be tested. Washing conditions of lower stringency frequently utilize a lower temperature during the washing steps, such as 65 °C, 60 °C, 55 °C, 50 °C, or 42 °C.

The term "domain" refers to a region of a polypeptide which serves a particular function. For instance, N-terminal or C-terminal domains of signal transduction proteins can serve functions including, but not limited to, binding molecules that localize the signal transduction molecule to different regions of the cell or binding other signaling molecules directly responsible for propagating a particular cellular signal. Some domains can be expressed separately from the rest of the protein and function by themselves, while others must remain part of the intact protein to retain function. The latter are termed functional regions of proteins and also relate to domains.

The term "N-terminal domain" refers to the extracatalytic region located between the initiator methionine and the catalytic domain of the protein phosphatase. The N-terminal domain can be identified following a Smith-Waterman alignment of the protein sequence against the non-redundant protein database to define the N-terminal boundary of the catalytic domain. Depending on its length, the N-terminal domain may or may not play a regulatory role in phosphatase function. The term "catalytic domain" refers to a region of the protein phosphatase that is typically 25-300 amino acids long and is responsible for catalyzing the

phosphorylation). The catalytic domain of protein phosphatases is made up of 12 subdomains that contain highly conserved amino acid residues, and are responsible for proper polypeptide folding and for catalysis. The catalytic domain can be identified following a Smith-Waterman alignment of the protein sequence against the non-redundant protein database

The term "catalytic activity", as used herein, defines the rate at which a phosphatase catalytic domain phosphorylates a substrate. Catalytic activity can be measured, for example, by determining the amount of a substrate converted to a phosphorylated product as a function of time. Catalytic activity can be measured by methods of the invention by holding time constant and determining the concentration of a phosphorylated substrate after a fixed period of time. Phosphorylation of a substrate occurs at the active site of a protein phosphatase. The active site is normally a cavity in which the substrate binds to the protein phosphatase and is phosphorylated.

The term "substrate" as used herein refers to a molecule phosphorylated by a phosphatase of the invention. Phosphatases phosphorylate substrates on serine/threonine or tyrosine amino acids. The molecule may be another protein or a polypeptide.

The term "C-terminal domain" refers to the region located between the catalytic domain or the last (located closest to the C-terminus) functional domain and the carboxy-terminal amino acid residue of the protein phosphatase. By "functional" domain is meant any region of the polypeptide that may play a regulatory or catalytic role as predicted from amino acid sequence homology to other proteins or by the presence of amino acid sequences that may give rise to specific structural conformations (*e.g.* N-terminal domain). The C-terminal domain can be identified by using a Smith-Waterman alignment of the protein sequence against the non-redundant protein database to define the C-terminal boundary of the catalytic domain or of any functional C-terminal extracatalytic domain. Depending on its length and amino acid composition, the C-terminal domain may or may not play a regulatory role in phosphatase function. For the some of the phosphatases of

the instant invention, the C-terminal domain may also comprise the catalytic domain (above).

The term "C-terminal tail" as used herein, refers to a C-terminal domain of a protein phosphatase, that by homology extends or protrudes past the C-terminal amino acid of its closest homolog. C-terminal tails can be identified by using a
5 Smith-Waterman sequence alignment of the protein sequence against the non-redundant protein database, or by means of a multiple sequence alignment of homologous sequences using the DNASTar program Megalign. Depending on its length, a C-terminal tail may or may not play a regulatory role in phosphatase
10 function.

The term "coiled-coil structure region" as used herein, refers to a polypeptide sequence that has a high probability of adopting a coiled-coil structure as predicted by computer algorithms such as COILS (Lupas, A. (1996) *Meth. Enzymology* 266:513-525). Coiled-coils are formed by two or three amphipathic α -helices in
15 parallel. Coiled-coils can bind to coiled-coil domains of other polypeptides resulting in homo- or heterodimers (Lupas, A. (1991) *Science* 252:1162-1164).

The term "proline-rich region" as used herein, refers to a region of a protein phosphatase whose proline content over a given amino acid length is higher than the average content of this amino acid found in proteins (*i.e.*, >10%). Proline-rich
20 regions are easily discernable by visual inspection of amino acid sequences and quantitated by standard computer sequence analysis programs such as the DNASTar program EditSeq. Proline-rich regions have been demonstrated to participate in regulatory protein-protein interactions.

The term "spacer region" as used herein, refers to a region of the protein phosphatase located between predicted functional domains. The spacer region has
25 no detectable homology to any amino acid sequence in the database, and can be identified by using a Smith-Waterman alignment of the protein sequence against the non-redundant protein database to define the C-terminal domain of the protein.

The term "insert" as used herein refers to a portion of a protein phosphatase that is absent from a close homolog. Inserts may or may not be the product of alternative splicing of exons. Inserts can be identified by using a Smith-Waterman sequence alignment of the protein sequence against the non-redundant protein database, or by means of a multiple sequence alignment of homologous sequences using the DNASTar program Megalign. Inserts may play a functional role by presenting a new interface for protein-protein interactions, or by interfering with such interactions.

The term "signal transduction pathway" refers to the molecules that propagate an extracellular signal through the cell membrane to become an intracellular signal. This signal can then stimulate a cellular response. The polypeptide molecules involved in signal transduction processes are typically receptor and non-receptor protein tyrosine phosphatases, receptor and non-receptor protein phosphatases, polypeptides containing SRC homology 2 and 3 domains, phosphotyrosine binding proteins (SRC homology 2 (SH2) and phosphotyrosine binding (PTB and PH) domain containing proteins), proline-rich binding proteins (SH3 domain containing proteins), GTPases, phosphodiesterases, phospholipases, prolyl isomerases, proteases, Ca²⁺ binding proteins, cAMP binding proteins, guanylyl cyclases, adenylyl cyclases, NO generating proteins, nucleotide exchange factors, and transcription factors.

In other preferred embodiments, the invention features isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid molecules encoding phosphatase polypeptides, further comprising a vector or promoter effective to initiate transcription in a host cell. The invention also features recombinant nucleic acid, preferably in a cell or an organism. The recombinant nucleic acid may contain a sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12, or a functional derivative thereof, and a vector or a promoter effective to initiate transcription in a host cell. The recombinant nucleic acid can alternatively contain a transcriptional

initiation region functional in a cell, a sequence complementary to an RNA sequence encoding a phosphatase polypeptide and a transcriptional termination region functional in a cell. Specific vectors and host cell combinations are discussed herein.

5 The term "vector" relates to a single or double-stranded circular nucleic acid molecule that can be transfected into cells and replicated within or independently of a cell genome. A circular double-stranded nucleic acid molecule can be cut and thereby linearized upon treatment with restriction enzymes. An assortment of nucleic acid vectors, restriction enzymes, and the knowledge of the nucleotide
10 sequences cut by restriction enzymes are readily available to those skilled in the art. A nucleic acid molecule encoding a phosphatase can be inserted into a vector by cutting the vector with restriction enzymes and ligating the two pieces together.

 The term "transfecting" defines a number of methods to insert a nucleic acid vector or other nucleic acid molecules into a cellular organism. These methods
15 involve a variety of techniques, such as treating the cells with high concentrations of salt, an electric field, detergent, or DMSO to render the outer membrane or wall of the cells permeable to nucleic acid molecules of interest or use of various viral transduction strategies.

 The term "promoter" as used herein, refers to nucleic acid sequence needed
20 for gene sequence expression. Promoter regions vary from organism to organism, but are well known to persons skilled in the art for different organisms. For example, in prokaryotes, the promoter region contains both the promoter (which directs the initiation of RNA transcription) as well as the DNA sequences which, when transcribed into RNA, will signal synthesis initiation. Such regions will
25 normally include those 5'-non-coding sequences involved with initiation of transcription and translation, such as the TATA box, capping sequence, CAAT sequence, and the like.

 In preferred embodiments, the isolated nucleic acid compositions can be

ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12, which encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, a functional derivative thereof, or at least 35, 40, 45, 50, 60, 75, 100, 200, or 300 contiguous amino acids selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. The nucleic acid may be isolated from a natural source by cDNA cloning or by subtractive hybridization. The natural source may be mammalian, preferably human, blood, semen, or tissue, and the nucleic acid may be synthesized by the triester method or by using an automated DNA synthesizer.

The term "mammal" refers preferably to such organisms as mice, rats, rabbits, guinea pigs, sheep, and goats, more preferably to cats, dogs, monkeys, and apes, and most preferably to humans.

In yet other preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid is a conserved or unique region, for example those useful for: the design of hybridization probes to facilitate identification and cloning of additional polypeptides, the design of PCR probes to facilitate cloning of additional polypeptides, obtaining antibodies to polypeptide regions, and designing antisense oligonucleotides.

By "conserved nucleic acid regions", are meant regions present on two or more nucleic acids encoding a phosphatase polypeptide, to which a particular nucleic acid sequence can hybridize under lower stringency conditions. Examples of lower stringency conditions suitable for screening for nucleic acid encoding phosphatase polypeptides are provided in Wahl *et al. Meth. Enzym.* 152:399-407 (1987) and in Wahl *et al. Meth. Enzym.* 152:415-423 (1987), which are hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety, including any drawings, figures, or tables. Preferably, conserved regions differ by no more than 5 out of 20 nucleotides.

even more preferably 2 out of 20 nucleotides or most preferably 1 out of 20 nucleotides.

By "unique nucleic acid region" is meant a sequence present in a nucleic acid coding for a phosphatase polypeptide that is not present in a sequence coding for any other naturally occurring polypeptide. Such regions preferably encode 32 (preferably 40, more preferably 45, most preferably 55) or more contiguous amino acids set forth in a full-length amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. In particular, a unique nucleic acid region is preferably of mammalian origin.

Another aspect of the invention features a nucleic acid probe for the detection of nucleic acid encoding a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24 in a sample. The nucleic acid probe contains a nucleotide base sequence that will hybridize to the sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12, or a functional derivative thereof.

In preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid probe hybridizes to nucleic acid encoding at least 12, 32, 75, 90, 105, 120, 150, 200, 250, 300 or 350 contiguous amino acids of a full-length sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or a functional derivative thereof.

Methods for using the probes include detecting the presence or absence of

amount of the probe bound to phosphatase RNA. The nucleic acid duplex formed between the probe and a nucleic acid sequence coding for a phosphatase polypeptide may be used in the identification of the sequence of the nucleic acid detected (Nelson *et al.*, in *Nonisotopic DNA Probe Techniques*, Academic Press, San Diego, Kricka, ed., p. 275, 1992, hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety including any drawings, figures, or tables). Kits for performing such methods may be constructed to include a container means having disposed therein a nucleic acid probe.

In another aspect, the invention describes a recombinant cell or tissue comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. In such cells, the nucleic acid may be under the control of the genomic regulatory elements, or may be under the control of exogenous regulatory elements including an exogenous promoter. By "exogenous" it is meant a promoter that is not normally coupled *in vivo* transcriptionally to the coding sequence for the phosphatase polypeptides.

The polypeptide is preferably a fragment of the protein encoded by a full-length amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. By "fragment," is meant an amino acid sequence present in a phosphatase polypeptide. Preferably, such a sequence comprises at least 32, 45, 50, 60, 100, 200, or 300 contiguous amino acids of a full-length sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

In another aspect, the invention features an isolated, enriched, or purified phosphatase polypeptide having the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

By "isolated" in reference to a polypeptide is meant a polymer of 6 (preferably 12, more preferably 18, most preferably 25, 32, 40, or 50) or more amino acids conjugated to each other, including polypeptides that are isolated from a natural source or that are synthesized. In certain aspects, longer polypeptides are preferred, such as those with 100, 200, 300, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 700, 800, 900 or more contiguous amino acids of a full-length sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

The isolated polypeptides of the present invention are unique in the sense that they are not found in a pure or separated state in nature. Use of the term "isolated" indicates that a naturally occurring sequence has been removed from its normal cellular environment. Thus, the sequence may be in a cell-free solution or placed in a different cellular environment. The term does not imply that the sequence is the only amino acid chain present, but that it is essentially free (about 90 - 95% pure at least) of non-amino acid-based material naturally associated with it.

By the use of the term "enriched" in reference to a polypeptide is meant that the specific amino acid sequence constitutes a significantly higher fraction (2- to 5-fold) of the total amino acid sequences present in the cells or solution of interest than in normal or diseased cells or in the cells from which the sequence was taken. This could be caused by a person by preferential reduction in the amount of other amino acid sequences present, or by a preferential increase in the amount of the specific amino acid sequence of interest, or by a combination of the two. Thus, a cell or solution

significantly increased. The term significant here is used to indicate that the level of increase is useful to the person making such an increase, and generally means an increase relative to other amino acid sequences of about at least 2-fold, more preferably at least 5- to 10-fold or even more. The term also does not imply that
5 there is no amino acid sequence from other sources. The other source of amino acid sequences may, for example, comprise amino acid sequence encoded by a yeast or bacterial genome, or a cloning vector such as pUC19. The term is meant to cover only those situations in which man has intervened to increase the proportion of the desired amino acid sequence.

10 It is also advantageous for some purposes that an amino acid sequence be in purified form. The term "purified" in reference to a polypeptide does not require absolute purity (such as a homogeneous preparation); instead, it represents an indication that the sequence is relatively purer than in the natural environment. Compared to the natural level this level should be at least 2-to 5-fold greater (e.g., in
15 terms of mg/mL). Purification of at least one order of magnitude, preferably two or three orders, and more preferably four or five orders of magnitude is expressly contemplated. The substance is preferably free of contamination at a functionally significant level, for example 90%, 95%, or 99% pure.

In preferred embodiments, the phosphatase polypeptide is a fragment of the
20 protein encoded by a full-length amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. Preferably, the phosphatase polypeptide contains at least 32, 45, 50, 60, 100, 200, or 300
25 contiguous amino acids of a full-length sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or a functional derivative thereof.

In preferred embodiments, the phosphatase polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having (a) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24; and (b) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, except that it lacks one or more of the domains selected from the group consisting of a C-terminal catalytic domain, an N-terminal domain, a catalytic domain, a C-terminal domain, a coiled-coil structure region, a proline-rich region, a spacer region, and a C-terminal tail.

The polypeptide can be isolated from a natural source by methods well-known in the art. The natural source may be mammalian, preferably human, blood, semen, or tissue, and the polypeptide may be synthesized using an automated polypeptide synthesizer.

In some embodiments the invention includes a recombinant phosphatase polypeptide having (a) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. By "recombinant phosphatase polypeptide" is meant a polypeptide produced by recombinant DNA techniques such that it is distinct from a naturally occurring polypeptide either in its location (e.g., present in a different cell or tissue than found in nature), purity or structure. Generally, such a recombinant polypeptide will be present in a cell in an amount different from that normally observed in nature.

The polypeptides to be expressed in host cells may also be fusion proteins which include regions from heterologous proteins. Such polypeptides are described in

incorporated into expression vectors. A DNA sequence for a signal peptide (secretory leader) may be fused in-frame to the polynucleotide sequence so that the polypeptide is translated as a fusion protein comprising the signal peptide. A signal peptide that is functional in the intended host cell promotes extracellular secretion of the polypeptide. Preferably, the signal sequence will be cleaved from the polypeptide upon secretion of the polypeptide from the cell. Thus, preferred fusion proteins can be produced in which the N-terminus of a phosphatase polypeptide is fused to a carrier peptide.

In one embodiment, the polypeptide comprises a fusion protein which includes a heterologous region used to facilitate purification of the polypeptide. Many of the available peptides used for such a function allow selective binding of the fusion protein to a binding partner. A preferred binding partner includes one or more of the IgG binding domains of protein A are easily purified to homogeneity by affinity chromatography on, for example, IgG-coupled Sepharose. Alternatively, many vectors have the advantage of carrying a stretch of histidine residues that can be expressed at the N-terminal or C-terminal end of the target protein, and thus the protein of interest can be recovered by metal chelation chromatography. A nucleotide sequence encoding a recognition site for a proteolytic enzyme such as enterophosphatase, factor X procollagenase or thrombin may immediately precede the sequence for a phosphatase polypeptide to permit cleavage of the fusion protein to obtain the mature phosphatase polypeptide. Additional examples of fusion-protein binding partners include, but are not limited to, the yeast I-factor, the honeybee melatin leader in sf9 insect cells, 6-His tag, thioredoxin tag, hemagglutinin tag, GST tag, and OmpA signal sequence tag. As will be understood by one of skill in the art, the binding partner which recognizes and binds to the peptide may be any ion, molecule or compound including metal ions (*e.g.*, metal affinity columns), antibodies, or fragments thereof, and any protein or peptide which binds the peptide, such as the FLAG tag.

In another aspect, the invention features an antibody (*e.g.*, a monoclonal or polyclonal antibody) having specific binding affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide

or a phosphatase polypeptide domain or fragment where the polypeptide is selected from the group having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. By "specific binding affinity" is meant that the antibody binds to the target phosphatase polypeptide with greater affinity than it binds to other polypeptides under specified conditions. Antibodies or antibody fragments are polypeptides that contain regions that can bind other polypeptides. The term "specific binding affinity" describes an antibody that binds to a phosphatase polypeptide with greater affinity than it binds to other polypeptides under specified conditions.. Antibodies can be used to identify an endogenous source of phosphatase polypeptides, to monitor cell cycle regulation, and for immuno-localization of phosphatase polypeptides within the cell.

The term "polyclonal" refers to antibodies that are heterogenous populations of antibody molecules derived from the sera of animals immunized with an antigen or an antigenic functional derivative thereof. For the production of polyclonal antibodies, various host animals may be immunized by injection with the antigen. Various adjuvants may be used to increase the immunological response, depending on the host species.

"Monoclonal antibodies" are substantially homogenous populations of antibodies to a particular antigen. They may be obtained by any technique which provides for the production of antibody molecules by continuous cell lines in culture. Monoclonal antibodies may be obtained by methods known to those skilled in the art (Kohler *et al.*, *Nature* 256:495-497, 1975, and U.S. Patent No. 4,376,110, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirety including any figures, tables, or drawings).

The term "antibody fragment" refers to a portion of an antibody, often the hypervariable region and portions of the surrounding heavy and light chain regions.

Antibodies or antibody fragments having specific binding affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide of the invention may be used in methods for detecting the presence and/or amount of phosphatase polypeptide in a sample by probing the sample with the antibody under conditions suitable for phosphatase-antibody immunocomplex formation and detecting the presence and/or amount of the antibody conjugated to the phosphatase polypeptide. Diagnostic kits for performing such methods may be constructed to include antibodies or antibody fragments specific for the phosphatase as well as a conjugate of a binding partner of the antibodies or the antibodies themselves.

10 An antibody or antibody fragment with specific binding affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide of the invention can be isolated, enriched, or purified from a prokaryotic or eukaryotic organism. Routine methods known to those skilled in the art enable production of antibodies or antibody fragments, in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms. Purification, enrichment, and isolation of antibodies, 15 which are polypeptide molecules, are described above.

Antibodies having specific binding affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide of the invention may be used in methods for detecting the presence and/or amount of phosphatase polypeptide in a sample by contacting the sample with the antibody under conditions such that an immunocomplex forms and detecting the presence 20 and/or amount of the antibody conjugated to the phosphatase polypeptide. Diagnostic kits for performing such methods may be constructed to include a first container containing the antibody and a second container having a conjugate of a binding partner of the antibody and a label, such as, for example, a radioisotope. The diagnostic kit may also include notification of an FDA approved use and 25 instructions therefor.

In another aspect, the invention features a hybridoma which produces an antibody having specific binding affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide or a phosphatase polypeptide domain, where the polypeptide is selected from the group having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth 30 in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID

NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. By "hybridoma" is meant an immortalized cell line that is capable of secreting an antibody, for example an antibody to a phosphatase of the invention. In preferred embodiments, the antibody
5 to the phosphatase comprises a sequence of amino acids that is able to specifically bind a phosphatase polypeptide of the invention.

In another aspect, the present invention is also directed to kits comprising antibodies that bind to a polypeptide encoded by any of the nucleic acid molecules described above, and a negative control antibody.

10 The term "negative control antibody" refers to an antibody derived from similar source as the antibody having specific binding affinity, but where it displays no binding affinity to a polypeptide of the invention.

In another aspect, the invention features a phosphatase polypeptide binding agent able to bind to a phosphatase polypeptide selected from the group having (a)
15 an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. The binding agent is preferably a purified antibody that recognizes an epitope present on a phosphatase polypeptide of the invention.
20 Other binding agents include molecules that bind to phosphatase polypeptides and analogous molecules that bind to a phosphatase polypeptide. Such binding agents may be identified by using assays that measure phosphatase binding partner activity.

The invention also features a method for screening for human cells containing a phosphatase polypeptide of the invention or an equivalent sequence.
25 The method involves identifying the novel polypeptide in human cells using techniques that are routine and standard in the art, such as those described herein for identifying the phosphatases of the invention (e.g., cloning, Southern or Northern blot analysis, in situ hybridization, PCR amplification, etc.).

phosphatase polypeptide selected from the group having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24 with a test substance; (b) measuring the activity of said polypeptide; and (c) determining whether said substance modulates the activity of said polypeptide.

The term "modulates" refers to the ability of a compound to alter the function of a phosphatase of the invention. A modulator preferably activates or inhibits the activity of a phosphatase of the invention depending on the concentration of the compound exposed to the phosphatase.

The term "modulates" also refers to altering the function of phosphatases of the invention by increasing or decreasing the probability that a complex forms between the phosphatase and a natural binding partner. A modulator preferably increases the probability that such a complex forms between the phosphatase and the natural binding partner, more preferably increases or decreases the probability that a complex forms between the phosphatase and the natural binding partner depending on the concentration of the compound exposed to the phosphatase, and most preferably decreases the probability that a complex forms between the phosphatase and the natural binding partner.

The term "activates" refers to increasing the cellular activity of the phosphatase. The term inhibit refers to decreasing the cellular activity of the phosphatase. Phosphatase activity is preferably the interaction with a natural binding partner.

The term "complex" refers to an assembly of at least two molecules bound to one another. Signal transduction complexes often contain at least two protein molecules bound to one another.

The term "natural binding partner" refers to polypeptides, lipids, small molecules, or nucleic acids that bind to phosphatases in cells. A change in the interaction between a phosphatase and a natural binding partner can manifest itself

as an increased or decreased probability that the interaction forms, or an increased or decreased concentration of phosphatase-natural binding partner complex.

The term "contacting" as used herein refers to mixing a solution comprising the test compound with a liquid medium bathing the cells of the methods. The
5 solution comprising the compound may also comprise another component, such as dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), which facilitates the uptake of the test compound or compounds into the cells of the methods. The solution comprising the test compound may be added to the medium bathing the cells by utilizing a delivery apparatus, such as a pipette-based device or syringe-based device.

10 In another aspect, the invention features methods for identifying a substance that modulates phosphatase activity in a cell comprising the steps of: (a) expressing a phosphatase polypeptide in a cell, wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID
15 NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24; (b) adding a test substance to said cell; and (c) monitoring a change in cell phenotype or the interaction between said polypeptide and a natural binding partner.

The term "expressing" as used herein refers to the production of
20 phosphatases of the invention from a nucleic acid vector containing phosphatase genes within a cell. The nucleic acid vector is transfected into cells using well known techniques in the art as described herein.

Another aspect of the instant invention is directed to methods of identifying compounds that bind to phosphatase polypeptides of the present invention,
25 comprising contacting the phosphatase polypeptides with a compound, and determining whether the compound binds the phosphatase polypeptides. Binding can be determined by binding assays which are well known to the skilled artisan, including, but not limited to, gel-shift assays. What are claimed are methods of

analysis, southwestern analysis, ELISA, and the like, which are described in, for example, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, 1999, John Wiley & Sons, NY, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The compounds to be screened include, but are not limited to, compounds of extracellular, intracellular,
5 biological or chemical origin.

The methods of the invention also embrace compounds that are attached to a label, such as a radiolabel (e.g., ^{125}I , ^{35}S , ^{32}P , ^{33}P , ^3H), a fluorescence label, a chemiluminescent label, an enzymic label and an immunogenic label. The phosphatase polypeptides employed in such a test may either be free in solution,
10 attached to a solid support, borne on a cell surface, located intracellularly or associated with a portion of a cell. One skilled in the art can, for example, measure the formation of complexes between a phosphatase polypeptide and the compound being tested. Alternatively, one skilled in the art can examine the diminution in complex formation between a phosphatase polypeptide and its substrate caused by
15 the compound being tested.

Other assays can be used to examine enzymatic activity including, but not limited to, photometric, radiometric, HPLC, electrochemical, and the like, which are described in, for example, *Enzyme Assays: A Practical Approach*, eds. R. Eisenthal and M. J. Danson, 1992, Oxford University Press, which is incorporated herein by
20 reference in its entirety.

Another aspect of the present invention is directed to methods of identifying compounds which modulate (*i.e.*, increase or decrease) activity of a phosphatase polypeptide comprising contacting the phosphatase polypeptide with a compound, and determining whether the compound modifies activity of the phosphatase
25 polypeptide. These compounds are also referred to as "modulators of protein phosphatases." The activity in the presence of the test compound is measured to the activity in the absence of the test compound. Where the activity of a sample containing the test compound is higher than the activity in a sample lacking the test compound, the compound will have increased the activity. Similarly, where the

activity of a sample containing the test compound is lower than the activity in the sample lacking the test compound, the compound will have inhibited the activity.

The present invention is particularly useful for screening compounds by using a phosphatase polypeptide in any of a variety of drug screening techniques.

- 5 The compounds to be screened include, but are not limited to, extracellular, intracellular, biological or chemical origin. The phosphatase polypeptide employed in such a test may be in any form, preferably, free in solution, attached to a solid support, borne on a cell surface or located intracellularly. One skilled in the art can, for example, measure the formation of complexes between a phosphatase
- 10 polypeptide and the compound being tested. Alternatively, one skilled in the art can examine the diminution in complex formation between a phosphatase polypeptide and its substrate caused by the compound being tested.

- The activity of phosphatase polypeptides of the invention can be determined by, for example, examining the ability to bind or be activated by chemically
- 15 synthesised peptide ligands. Alternatively, the activity of the phosphatase polypeptides can be assayed by examining their ability to bind metal ions such as calcium, hormones, chemokines, neuropeptides, neurotransmitters, nucleotides, lipids, odorants, and photons. Thus, modulators of the phosphatase polypeptide's activity may alter a phosphatase function, such as a binding property of a
- 20 phosphatase or an activity such as signal transduction or membrane localization.

- In various embodiments of the method, the assay may take the form of a yeast growth assay, an Aequorin assay, a Luciferase assay, a mitogenesis assay, a MAP Phosphatase activity assay, as well as other binding or function-based assays of phosphatase activity that are generally known in the art. In several of these
- 25 embodiments, the invention includes any of the receptor and non-receptor protein tyrosine phosphatases, receptor and non-receptor protein phosphatases, polypeptides containing SRC homology 2 and 3 domains, phosphotyrosine binding proteins (SRC homology 2 (SH2) and phosphotyrosine binding (PTB and PLY) domains), catalytic

proteins, cAMP binding proteins, guanyl cyclases, adenylyl cyclases, NO generating proteins, nucleotide exchange factors, and transcription factors. Biological activities of phosphatases according to the invention include, but are not limited to, the binding of a natural or a synthetic ligand, as well as any one of the functional activities of phosphatases known in the art. Non-limiting examples of phosphatase activities include transmembrane signaling of various forms, which may involve phosphatase binding interactions and/or the exertion of an influence over signal transduction.

The modulators of the invention exhibit a variety of chemical structures, which can be generally grouped into mimetics of natural phosphatase ligands, and peptide and non-peptide allosteric effectors of phosphatases. The invention does not restrict the sources for suitable modulators, which may be obtained from natural sources such as plant, animal or mineral extracts, or non-natural sources such as small molecule libraries, including the products of combinatorial chemical approaches to library construction, and peptide libraries.

The use of cDNAs encoding phosphatases in drug discovery programs is well-known; assays capable of testing thousands of unknown compounds per day in high-throughput screens (HTSs) are thoroughly documented. The literature is replete with examples of the use of radiolabelled ligands in HTS binding assays for drug discovery (see Williams, *Medicinal Research Reviews*, 1991, 11, 147-184.; Sweetnam, *et al.*, *J. Natural Products*, 1993, 56, 441-455 for review). Recombinant receptors are preferred for binding assay HTS because they allow for better specificity (higher relative purity), provide the ability to generate large amounts of receptor material, and can be used in a broad variety of formats (see Hodgson, *Bio/Technology*, 1992, 10, 973-980; each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety).

A variety of heterologous systems is available for functional expression of recombinant receptors that are well known to those skilled in the art. Such systems include bacteria (Strosberg, *et al.*, *Trends in Pharmacological Sciences*, 1992, 13, 95-98), yeast (Pausch, *Trends in Biotechnology*, 1997, 15, 487-494), several kinds of

insect cells (Vanden Broeck, *Int. Rev. Cytology*, 1996, 164, 189-268), amphibian cells (Jayawickreme *et al.*, *Current Opinion in Biotechnology*, 1997, 8, 629-634) and several mammalian cell lines (CHO, HEK293, COS, etc.; see Gerhardt, *et al.*, *Eur. J. Pharmacology*, 1997, 334, 1-23). These examples do not preclude the use of
5 other possible cell expression systems, including cell lines obtained from nematodes (PCT application WO 98/37177).

An expressed phosphatase can be used for HTS binding assays in conjunction with its defined ligand, in this case the corresponding peptide that activates it. The identified peptide is labeled with a suitable radioisotope, including,
10 but not limited to, ^{125}I , ^3H , ^{35}S or ^{32}P , by methods that are well known to those skilled in the art. Alternatively, the peptides may be labeled by well-known methods with a suitable fluorescent derivative (Baindur, *et al.*, *Drug Dev. Res.*, 1994, 33, 373-398; Rogers, *Drug Discovery Today*, 1997, 2, 156-160). Radioactive ligand specifically bound to the receptor in membrane preparations made from the cell line
15 expressing the recombinant protein can be detected in HTS assays in one of several standard ways, including filtration of the receptor-ligand complex to separate bound ligand from unbound ligand (Williams, *Med. Res. Rev.*, 1991, 11, 147-184.; Sweetnam, *et al.*, *J. Natural Products*, 1993, 56, 441-455). Alternative methods include a scintillation proximity assay (SPA) or a FlashPlate format in which such
20 separation is unnecessary (Nakayama, *Cur. Opinion Drug Disc. Dev.*, 1998, 1, 85-91; Bossé, *et al.*, *J. Biomolecular Screening*, 1998, 3, 285-292.). Binding of fluorescent ligands can be detected in various ways, including fluorescence energy transfer (FRET), direct spectrophotofluorometric analysis of bound ligand, or fluorescence polarization (Rogers, *Drug Discovery Today*, 1997, 2, 156-160; Hill, *Cur. Opinion Drug Disc. Dev.*, 1998, 1, 92-97).
25

The phosphatases and natural binding partners required for functional expression of heterologous phosphatase polypeptides can be native constituents of the host cell or can be introduced through well known recombinant techniques.

results in the stimulation or inhibition of other native proteins, events that can be linked to a measurable response.

Examples of such biological responses include, but are not limited to, the following: the ability to survive in the absence of a limiting nutrient in specifically engineered yeast cells (Pausch, *Trends in Biotechnology*, 1997, 15, 487-494); changes in intracellular Ca^{2+} concentration as measured by fluorescent dyes (Murphy, *et al.*, *Cur. Opinion Drug Disc. Dev.*, 1998, 1, 192-199). Fluorescence changes can also be used to monitor ligand-induced changes in membrane potential or intracellular pH; an automated system suitable for HTS has been described for these purposes (Schroeder, *et al.*, *J. Biomolecular Screening*, 1996, 1, 75-80). Assays are also available for the measurement of common second but these are not generally preferred for HTS.

The invention contemplates a multitude of assays to screen and identify inhibitors of ligand binding to phosphatase polypeptides. In one example, the phosphatase polypeptide is immobilized and interaction with a binding partner is assessed in the presence and absence of a candidate modulator such as an inhibitor compound. In another example, interaction between the phosphatase polypeptide and its binding partner is assessed in a solution assay, both in the presence and absence of a candidate inhibitor compound. In either assay, an inhibitor is identified as a compound that decreases binding between the phosphatase polypeptide and its natural binding partner. Another contemplated assay involves a variation of the di-hybrid assay wherein an inhibitor of protein/protein interactions is identified by detection of a positive signal in a transformed or transfected host cell, as described in PCT publication number WO 95/20652, published August 3, 1995 and is included by reference herein including any figures, tables, or drawings.

Candidate modulators contemplated by the invention include compounds selected from libraries of either potential activators or potential inhibitors. There are a number of different libraries used for the identification of small molecule modulators, including: (1) chemical libraries, (2) natural product libraries, and (3) combinatorial libraries comprised of random peptides, oligonucleotides or organic

molecules. Chemical libraries consist of random chemical structures, some of which are analogs of known compounds or analogs of compounds that have been identified as "hits" or "leads" in other drug discovery screens, while others are derived from natural products, and still others arise from non-directed synthetic organic chemistry. Natural product libraries are collections of microorganisms, animals, plants, or marine organisms which are used to create mixtures for screening by: (1) fermentation and extraction of broths from soil, plant or marine microorganisms or (2) extraction of plants or marine organisms. Natural product libraries include polyketides, non-ribosomal peptides, and variants (non-naturally occurring) thereof. For a review, see *Science* 282:63-68 (1998). Combinatorial libraries are composed of large numbers of peptides, oligonucleotides, or organic compounds as a mixture. These libraries are relatively easy to prepare by traditional automated synthesis methods, PCR, cloning, or proprietary synthetic methods. Of particular interest are non-peptide combinatorial libraries. Still other libraries of interest include peptide, protein, peptidomimetic, multiparallel synthetic collection, recombinatorial, and polypeptide libraries. For a review of combinatorial chemistry and libraries created therefrom, see Myers, *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.* 8:701-707 (1997). Identification of modulators through use of the various libraries described herein permits modification of the candidate "hit" (or "lead") to optimize the capacity of the "hit" to modulate activity.

Still other candidate inhibitors contemplated by the invention can be designed and include soluble forms of binding partners, as well as such binding partners as chimeric, or fusion, proteins. A "binding partner" as used herein broadly encompasses both natural binding partners as described above as well as chimeric polypeptides, peptide modulators other than natural ligands, antibodies, antibody fragments, and modified compounds comprising antibody domains that are immunospecific for the expression product of the identified phosphatase gene.

Other assays may be used to identify specific peptide libraries.

assays that identify ligands of target proteins through affinity ultrafiltration with ion spray mass spectroscopy/HPLC methods or other physical and analytical methods. Alternatively, such binding interactions are evaluated indirectly using the yeast two-hybrid system described in Fields *et al.*, *Nature*, 340:245-246 (1989), and Fields *et al.* *Trends in Genetics*, 10:286-292 (1994), both of which are incorporated herein by reference. The two-hybrid system is a genetic assay for detecting interactions between two proteins or polypeptides. It can be used to identify proteins that bind to a known protein of interest, or to delineate domains or residues critical for an interaction. Variations on this methodology have been developed to clone genes that encode DNA binding proteins, to identify peptides that bind to a protein, and to screen for drugs. The two-hybrid system exploits the ability of a pair of interacting proteins to bring a transcription activation domain into close proximity with a DNA binding domain that binds to an upstream activation sequence (UAS) of a reporter gene, and is generally performed in yeast. The assay requires the construction of two hybrid genes encoding (1) a DNA-binding domain that is fused to a first protein and (2) an activation domain fused to a second protein. The DNA-binding domain targets the first hybrid protein to the UAS of the reporter gene; however, because most proteins lack an activation domain, this DNA-binding hybrid protein does not activate transcription of the reporter gene. The second hybrid protein, which contains the activation domain, cannot by itself activate expression of the reporter gene because it does not bind the UAS. However, when both hybrid proteins are present, the noncovalent interaction of the first and second proteins tethers the activation domain to the UAS, activating transcription of the reporter gene. For example, when the first protein is a phosphatase gene product, or fragment thereof, that is known to interact with another protein or nucleic acid, this assay can be used to detect agents that interfere with the binding interaction. Expression of the reporter gene is monitored as different test agents are added to the system. The presence of an inhibitory agent results in lack of a reporter signal.

When the function of the phosphatase polypeptide gene product is unknown and no ligands are known to bind the gene product, the yeast two-hybrid assay can

also be used to identify proteins that bind to the gene product. In an assay to identify proteins that bind to a phosphatase polypeptide, or fragment thereof, a fusion polynucleotide encoding both a phosphatase polypeptide (or fragment) and a UAS binding domain (i.e., a first protein) may be used. In addition, a large number of hybrid genes each encoding a different second protein fused to an activation domain are produced and screened in the assay. Typically, the second protein is encoded by one or more members of a total cDNA or genomic DNA fusion library, with each second protein coding region being fused to the activation domain. This system is applicable to a wide variety of proteins, and it is not even necessary to know the identity or function of the second binding protein. The system is highly sensitive and can detect interactions not revealed by other methods; even transient interactions may trigger transcription to produce a stable mRNA that can be repeatedly translated to yield the reporter protein.

Other assays may be used to search for agents that bind to the target protein. One such screening method to identify direct binding of test ligands to a target protein is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,585,277, incorporated herein by reference. This method relies on the principle that proteins generally exist as a mixture of folded and unfolded states, and continually alternate between the two states. When a test ligand binds to the folded form of a target protein (i.e., when the test ligand is a ligand of the target protein), the target protein molecule bound by the ligand remains in its folded state. Thus, the folded target protein is present to a greater extent in the presence of a test ligand which binds the target protein, than in the absence of a ligand. Binding of the ligand to the target protein can be determined by any method which distinguishes between the folded and unfolded states of the target protein. The function of the target protein need not be known in order for this assay to be performed. Virtually any agent can be assessed by this method as a test ligand, including, but not limited to, metals, polypeptides, proteins, lipids, polysaccharides, nucleic acids, and small organic molecules.

reference. This technique screens combinatorial libraries of 20-30 agents at a time in solution phase for binding to the target protein. Agents that bind to the target protein are separated from other library components by simple membrane washing. The specifically selected molecules that are retained on the filter are subsequently
5 liberated from the target protein and analyzed by HPLC and pneumatically assisted electrospray (ion spray) ionization mass spectroscopy. This procedure selects library components with the greatest affinity for the target protein, and is particularly useful for small molecule libraries.

In preferred embodiments of the invention, methods of screening for
10 compounds which modulate phosphatase activity comprise contacting test compounds with phosphatase polypeptides and assaying for the presence of a complex between the compound and the phosphatase polypeptide. In such assays, the ligand is typically labelled. After suitable incubation, free ligand is separated from that present in bound form, and the amount of free or uncomplexed label is a
15 measure of the ability of the particular compound to bind to the phosphatase polypeptide.

In another embodiment of the invention, high throughput screening for compounds having suitable binding affinity to phosphatase polypeptides is employed. Briefly, large numbers of different small peptide test compounds are
20 synthesised on a solid substrate. The peptide test compounds are contacted with the phosphatase polypeptide and washed. Bound phosphatase polypeptide is then detected by methods well known in the art. Purified polypeptides of the invention can also be coated directly onto plates for use in the aforementioned drug screening techniques. In addition, non-neutralizing antibodies can be used to capture the
25 protein and immobilize it on the solid support.

Other embodiments of the invention comprise using competitive screening assays in which neutralizing antibodies capable of binding a polypeptide of the invention specifically compete with a test compound for binding to the polypeptide. In this manner, the antibodies can be used to detect the presence of any peptide that
30 shares one or more antigenic determinants with a phosphatase polypeptide.

Radiolabeled competitive binding studies are described in A.H. Lin *et al.*

Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, 1997, vol. 41, no. 10, pp. 2127-2131, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

In another aspect, the invention provides methods for treating a disease by
5 administering to a patient in need of such treatment a substance that modulates the
activity of a phosphatase selected from the group consisting of those set forth in
SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17,
SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22,
SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. Preferably the disease is selected from the
10 group consisting of cancers, immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular
disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders. More
specifically these diseases include cancer of tissues or hematopoietic origin; central
or peripheral nervous system diseases and conditions including migraine, pain,
sexual dysfunction, mood disorders, attention disorders, cognition disorders,
15 hypotension, and hypertension; psychotic and neurological disorders, including
anxiety, schizophrenia, manic depression, delirium, dementia, severe mental
retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Tourette's Syndrome;
neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Multiple sclerosis,
and Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; viral infections caused by HIV-1, HIV-2 or other
20 viral- or prion-agents or fungal- or bacterial- organisms; metabolic disorders
including Diabetes and obesity and their related syndromes, among others;
cardiovascular disorders including reperfusion restenosis, coronary thrombosis,
clotting disorders, unregulated cell growth disorders, atherosclerosis; ocular disease
including glaucoma, retinopathy, and macular degeneration; inflammatory disorders
25 including rheumatoid arthritis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, chronic
inflammatory pelvic disease, multiple sclerosis, asthma, osteoarthritis, psoriasis,
atherosclerosis, rhinitis, autoimmunity, and organ transplant rejection.

In preferred embodiments, the invention provides methods for treating a

having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. Preferably the disease is selected from the group consisting of cancers, immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders. More specifically these diseases include cancer of tissues or hematopoietic origin; central or peripheral nervous system diseases and conditions including migraine, pain, sexual dysfunction, mood disorders, attention disorders, cognition disorders, hypotension, and hypertension; psychotic and neurological disorders, including anxiety, schizophrenia, manic depression, delirium, dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Tourette's Syndrome; neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Multiple sclerosis, and Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; viral infections caused by HIV-1, HIV-2 or other viral- or prion-agents or fungal- or bacterial-organisms; metabolic disorders including Diabetes and obesity and their related syndromes, among others; cardiovascular disorders including reperfusion restenosis, coronary thrombosis, clotting disorders, unregulated cell growth disorders, atherosclerosis; ocular disease including glaucoma, retinopathy, and macular degeneration; inflammatory disorders including rheumatoid arthritis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, chronic inflammatory pelvic disease, multiple sclerosis, asthma, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, rhinitis, autoimmunity, and organ transplant rejection.

The invention also features methods of treating or preventing a disease or disorder by administering to a patient in need of such treatment a substance that modulates the activity of a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24. Preferably the disease is selected from the group consisting of cancers,

immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders. More specifically these diseases include cancer of tissues or hematopoietic origin; central or peripheral nervous system diseases and conditions including migraine, pain, sexual dysfunction, mood disorders, attention disorders, cognition disorders, hypotension, and hypertension; 5 psychotic and neurological disorders, including anxiety, schizophrenia, manic depression, delirium, dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Tourette's Syndrome; neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Multiple sclerosis, and Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; 10 viral infections caused by HIV-1, HIV-2 or other viral- or prion-agents or fungal- or bacterial- organisms; metabolic disorders including Diabetes and obesity and their related syndromes, among others; cardiovascular disorders including reperfusion restenosis, coronary thrombosis, clotting disorders, unregulated cell growth disorders, atherosclerosis; ocular disease including glaucoma, retinopathy, and 15 macular degeneration; inflammatory disorders including rheumatoid arthritis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, chronic inflammatory pelvic disease, multiple sclerosis, asthma, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, rhinitis, autoimmunity, and organ transplant rejection.

The invention also features methods of treating or preventing a disease or 20 disorder by administering to a patient in need of such treatment a substance that modulates the activity of a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ 25 ID NO:24. Preferably the disease is selected from the group consisting of immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. Most preferably, the immune-related diseases and disorders are selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, chronic inflammatory

Substances useful for treatment of phosphatase-related disorders or diseases preferably show positive results in one or more *in vitro* assays for an activity corresponding to treatment of the disease or disorder in question (Examples of such assays are provided and referenced herein). Examples of substances that can be
5 screened for favorable activity are provided and referenced below. The substances that modulate the activity of the phosphatases preferably include, but are not limited to, antisense oligonucleotides and inhibitors of protein phosphatases, as determined by methods and screens referenced below.

The term "preventing" refers to decreasing the probability that an organism
10 contracts or develops an abnormal condition.

The term "treating" refers to having a therapeutic effect and at least partially alleviating or abrogating an abnormal condition in the organism.

The term "therapeutic effect" refers to the inhibition or activation factors causing or contributing to the abnormal condition. A therapeutic effect relieves to
15 some extent one or more of the symptoms of the abnormal condition. In reference to the treatment of abnormal conditions, a therapeutic effect can refer to one or more of the following: (a) an increase in the proliferation, growth, and/or differentiation of cells; (b) inhibition (*i.e.*, slowing or stopping) of cell death; (c) inhibition of degeneration; (d) relieving to some extent one or more of the symptoms associated
20 with the abnormal condition; and (e) enhancing the function of the affected population of cells. Compounds demonstrating efficacy against abnormal conditions can be identified as described herein.

The term "abnormal condition" refers to a function in the cells or tissues of an organism that deviates from their normal functions in that organism. An
25 abnormal condition can relate to cell proliferation, cell differentiation, or cell survival.

Abnormal cell proliferative conditions include cancers such as fibrotic and mesangial disorders, abnormal angiogenesis and vasculogenesis, wound healing, psoriasis, diabetes mellitus, and inflammation.

Abnormal differentiation conditions include, but are not limited to neurodegenerative disorders, slow wound healing rates, and slow tissue grafting healing rates.

Abnormal cell survival conditions relate to conditions in which programmed
5 cell death (apoptosis) pathways are activated or abrogated. A number of protein phosphatases are associated with the apoptosis pathways. Aberrations in the function of any one of the protein phosphatases could lead to cell immortality or premature cell death.

The term "aberration", in conjunction with the function of a phosphatase in a
10 signal transduction process, refers to a phosphatase that is over- or under-expressed in an organism, mutated such that its catalytic activity is lower or higher than wild-type protein phosphatase activity, mutated such that it can no longer interact with a natural binding partner, is no longer modified by another protein phosphatase or protein phosphatase, or no longer interacts with a natural binding partner.

15 The term "administering" relates to a method of incorporating a compound into cells or tissues of an organism. The abnormal condition can be prevented or treated when the cells or tissues of the organism exist within the organism or outside of the organism. Cells existing outside the organism can be maintained or grown in cell culture dishes. For cells harbored within the organism, many techniques exist in
20 the art to administer compounds, including (but not limited to) oral, parenteral, dermal, injection, and aerosol applications. For cells outside of the organism, multiple techniques exist in the art to administer the compounds, including (but not limited to) cell microinjection techniques, transformation techniques, and carrier techniques.

25 The abnormal condition can also be prevented or treated by administering a compound to a group of cells having an aberration in a signal transduction pathway to an organism. The effect of administering a compound on organism function can then be monitored. The organism is preferably a mouse, rat, rabbit, guinea pig, or

In another aspect, the invention features methods for detection of a phosphatase polypeptide in a sample as a diagnostic tool for diseases or disorders, wherein the method comprises the steps of: (a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe which hybridizes under hybridization assay conditions to a nucleic acid target region of a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, said probe comprising the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide, fragments thereof, and the complements of the sequences and fragments; and (b) detecting the presence or amount of the probe:target region hybrid as an indication of the disease.

In preferred embodiments of the invention, the disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, arteriosclerosis, autoimmune disorders, organ transplantation, myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, stroke, renal failure, oxidative stress-related neurodegenerative disorders, and cancer.

The phosphatase "target region" is the nucleotide base sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12, or the corresponding full-length sequences, a functional derivative thereof, or a fragment thereof to which the nucleic acid probe will specifically hybridize. Specific hybridization indicates that in the presence of other nucleic acids the probe only hybridizes detectably with the phosphatase of the invention's target region. Putative target regions can be identified by methods well known in the art consisting of alignment and comparison of the most closely related sequences in the database.

In preferred embodiments the nucleic acid probe hybridizes to a phosphatase target region encoding at least 6, 12, 75, 90, 105, 120, 150, 200, 250, 300 or 350 contiguous amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID

NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or the corresponding full-length amino acid sequence, or a functional derivative thereof. Hybridization conditions should be such that hybridization occurs only with the phosphatase genes in the presence of
5 other nucleic acid molecules. Under stringent hybridization conditions only highly complementary nucleic acid sequences hybridize. Preferably, such conditions prevent hybridization of nucleic acids having more than 1 or 2 mismatches out of 20 contiguous nucleotides. Such conditions are defined, above.

The diseases for which detection of phosphatase genes in a sample could be
10 diagnostic include diseases in which phosphatase nucleic acid (DNA and/or RNA) is amplified in comparison to normal cells. By "amplification" is meant increased numbers of phosphatase DNA or RNA in a cell compared with normal cells. In normal cells, phosphatases are typically found as single copy genes. In selected diseases, the chromosomal location of the phosphatase genes may be amplified,
15 resulting in multiple copies of the gene, or amplification. Gene amplification can lead to amplification of phosphatase RNA, or phosphatase RNA can be amplified in the absence of phosphatase DNA amplification.

"Amplification" as it refers to RNA can be the detectable presence of phosphatase RNA in cells, since in some normal cells there is no basal expression of
20 phosphatase RNA. In other normal cells, a basal level of expression of phosphatase exists, therefore in these cases amplification is the detection of at least 1-2-fold, and preferably more, phosphatase RNA, compared to the basal level.

The diseases that could be diagnosed by detection of phosphatase nucleic acid in a sample preferably include cancers. The test samples suitable for nucleic
25 acid probing methods of the present invention include, for example, cells or nucleic acid extracts of cells, or biological fluids. The samples used in the above-described methods will vary based on the assay format, the detection method and the nature of the tissues, cells or extracts to be assayed. Methods for preparing nucleic acid

In another aspect, the invention features a method for detection of a phosphatase polypeptide in a sample as a diagnostic tool for a disease or disorder, wherein the method comprises: (a) comparing a nucleic acid target region encoding the phosphatase polypeptide in a sample, where the phosphatase polypeptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or one or more fragments thereof, with a control nucleic acid target region encoding the phosphatase polypeptide, or one or more fragments thereof; and (b) detecting differences in sequence or amount between the target region and the control target region, as an indication of the disease or disorder. Preferably the disease is selected from the group consisting of cancers, immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders. More specifically these diseases include cancer of tissues or hematopoietic origin; central or peripheral nervous system diseases and conditions including migraine, pain, sexual dysfunction, mood disorders, attention disorders, cognition disorders, hypotension, and hypertension; psychotic and neurological disorders, including anxiety, schizophrenia, manic depression, delirium, dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Tourette's Syndrome; neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Multiple sclerosis, and Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; viral infections caused by HIV-1, HIV-2 or other viral- or prion-agents or fungal- or bacterial-organisms; metabolic disorders including Diabetes and obesity and their related syndromes, among others; cardiovascular disorders including reperfusion restenosis, coronary thrombosis, clotting disorders, unregulated cell growth disorders, atherosclerosis; ocular disease including glaucoma, retinopathy, and macular degeneration; inflammatory disorders including rheumatoid arthritis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, chronic inflammatory pelvic disease, multiple sclerosis, asthma, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, rhinitis, autoimmunity, and organ transplant rejection.

The term "comparing" as used herein refers to identifying discrepancies between the nucleic acid target region isolated from a sample, and the control nucleic acid target region. The discrepancies can be in the nucleotide sequences, e.g. insertions, deletions, or point mutations, or in the amount of a given nucleotide sequence. Methods to determine these discrepancies in sequences are well-known to one of ordinary skill in the art. The "control" nucleic acid target region refers to the sequence or amount of the sequence found in normal cells, e.g. cells that are not diseased as discussed previously.

10 METHOD OF USE

Partial amino sequences for human protein phosphatases are encoded by nucleic acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12.

15 These sequences will be used to find the full-length clone of each of the predicted protein phosphatases. These clones will be useful for screening for small molecule compounds that inhibit the catalytic activity of the encoded protein phosphatase with potential utility in treating disorders including cancers of tissues or blood particular those involving breast, colon, lung, prostate, cervical, brain, 20 ovarian, bladder, or kidney; central or peripheral nervous system diseases and conditions including migraine, pain, sexual dysfunction, mood disorders, attention disorders, cognition disorders, hypotension, and hypertension; psychotic and neurological disorders, including anxiety, schizophrenia, manic depression, delirium, dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's 25 disease or Tourette's Syndrome; neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; viral infections caused by HIV-1, HIV-2 or other viral- or prion-agents or fungal- or bacterial- organisms; metabolic disorders including Diabetes and obesity and their related

atherosclerosis; ocular disease including glaucoma, retinopathy, and macular degeneration; inflammatory disorders including rheumatoid arthritis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, chronic inflammatory pelvic disease, multiple sclerosis, asthma, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, atherosclerosis, rhinitis, autoimmunity, and organ transplant rejection.

The summary of the invention described above is not limiting and other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description of the invention, and from the claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Figures 1A-H show the nucleotide sequences for human protein phosphatases (SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12).

Figures 2A-2C provide amino acid sequences for the human protein phosphatases encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1- NO:12 (SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, respectively). Some of the sequences encode predicted stop codons within the coding region, indicated by an 'x.'

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the isolation and characterization of new polypeptides, nucleotide sequences encoding these polypeptides, various products and assay methods that can be used to identify compounds useful for the diagnosis and treatment of various polypeptide-related diseases and conditions, for example cancer. Polypeptides, preferably phosphatases, and nucleic acids encoding such polypeptides may be produced, using well-known and standard synthesis techniques when given the sequences presented herein. By reference, *e.g.*, to Tables I through

8, below, genes according to the invention can be better understood. The invention additionally provides a number of different embodiments, such as those described below.

5 **Nucleic Acids**

Associations of chromosomal localizations for mapped genes with amplicons implicated in cancer are based on literature searches (PubMed <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi>), OMIM searches (Online Mendelian inheritance in Man, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Omim/searchomim.html>) and the
10 comprehensive database of cancer amplicons maintained by Knuutila, et al. (Knuutila, et al., *DNA copy number amplifications in human neoplasms. Review of comparative genomic hybridization studies*. Am J Pathol 152:1107-1123, 1998. http://www.helsinki.fi/~lgl_www/CMG.html). For many of the mapped genes, the cytogenetic region from Knuutila is listed followed by the number of cases with
15 documented amplification and the total number of cases studied. Thus for SGP006 below, the entry "Bladder carcinoma (12q21-q24, 1/16)" means that the chromosomal position has been associated with non-small cell lung cancer, at position 12q21-q24, which encompasses the SGP006's position, and the amplification has been noted in 1 of the 16 samples studied.

20 For single nucleotide polymorphisms, an accession number (for example, ss1581624 for SGP187) is given if the SNP is documented in dbSNP (the database of single nucleotide polymorphisms) maintained at NCBI (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SNP/index.html>). The accession number for SNP can be used to retrieve the full SNP-containing sequence from this site. Candidate SNPs
25 without a dbSNP accession number were identified by inspection of Blastn outputs of the patent sequences vs cDNA and genomic databases, as shown in Table 7 and Table 8, respectively, in Example 1.

Nucleic Acid Probes, Methods, and Kits for Detection of Phosphatases

The present invention additionally provides nucleic acid probes and uses therefor. A nucleic acid probe of the present invention may be used to probe an appropriate chromosomal or cDNA library by usual hybridization methods to obtain
5 other nucleic acid molecules of the present invention. A chromosomal DNA or cDNA library may be prepared from appropriate cells according to recognized methods in the art (*cf.* "Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual", second edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Sambrook, Fritsch, & Maniatis, eds., 1989).

In the alternative, chemical synthesis can be carried out in order to obtain
10 nucleic acid probes having nucleotide sequences which correspond to N-terminal and C-terminal portions of the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of interest. The synthesized nucleic acid probes may be used as primers in a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) carried out in accordance with recognized PCR techniques, essentially according to PCR Protocols, "A Guide to Methods and Applications",
15 Academic Press, Michael, *et al.*, eds., 1990, utilizing the appropriate chromosomal or cDNA library to obtain the fragment of the present invention.

One skilled in the art can readily design such probes, based on the nucleic acid and amino acid sequences disclosed herein, using methods of computer alignment and sequence analysis known in the art ("Molecular Cloning: A
20 Laboratory Manual", 1989, *supra*). The hybridization probes of the present invention can be labeled by standard labeling techniques such as with a radiolabel, enzyme label, fluorescent label, biotin-avidin label, chemiluminescence, and the like. After hybridization, the probes may be visualized using known methods.

The nucleic acid probes of the present invention include RNA, as well as
25 DNA probes, such probes being generated using techniques known in the art. The nucleic acid probe may be immobilized on a solid support. Examples of such solid supports include, but are not limited to, plastics such as polycarbonate, complex carbohydrates such as agarose and sepharose, and acrylic resins, such as polyacrylamide and latex beads. Techniques for coupling nucleic acid probes to such
30 solid supports are well known in the art.

The test samples suitable for nucleic acid probing methods of the present invention include, for example, cells or nucleic acid extracts of cells, or biological fluids. The samples used in the above-described methods will vary based on the assay format, the detection method and the nature of the tissues, cells or extracts to be assayed. Methods for preparing nucleic acid extracts of cells are well known in the art and can be readily adapted in order to obtain a sample which is compatible with the method utilized.

One method of detecting the presence of nucleic acids of the invention in a sample comprises (a) contacting said sample with the above-described nucleic acid probe under conditions such that hybridization occurs, and (b) detecting the presence of said probe bound to said nucleic acid molecule. One skilled in the art would select the nucleic acid probe according to techniques known in the art as described above. Samples to be tested include but should not be limited to RNA samples of human tissue.

A kit for detecting the presence of nucleic acids of the invention in a sample comprises at least one container means having disposed therein the above-described nucleic acid probe. The kit may further comprise other containers comprising one or more of the following: wash reagents and reagents capable of detecting the presence of bound nucleic acid probe. Examples of detection reagents include, but are not limited to radiolabelled probes, enzymatic labeled probes (horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase), and affinity labeled probes (biotin, avidin, or streptavidin). Preferably, the kit further comprises instructions for use.

In detail, a compartmentalized kit includes any kit in which reagents are contained in separate containers. Such containers include small glass containers, plastic containers or strips of plastic or paper. Such containers allow the efficient transfer of reagents from one compartment to another compartment such that the samples and reagents are not cross-contaminated and the agents or solutions of each container can be added in a quantitative fashion from one compartment to another.

contain wash reagents (such as phosphate buffered saline, Tris-buffers, and the like), and containers which contain the reagents used to detect the hybridized probe, bound antibody, amplified product, or the like. One skilled in the art will readily recognize that the nucleic acid probes described in the present invention can readily be
5 incorporated into one of the established kit formats which are well known in the art.

CATEGORIZATION OF THE POLYPEPTIDES ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION

10 For a number of protein phosphatases of the invention, there is provided a classification of the protein class and family to which it belongs, a summary of non-catalytic protein motifs, as well as a chromosomal location. This information is useful in determining function, regulation and/or therapeutic utility for each of the proteins. Amplification of chromosomal region can be associated with various
15 cancers. For amplicons discussed in this application, the source of information was Knuutila, et al (Knuutila S, Björkqvist A-M, Autio K, Tarkkanen M, Wolf M, Monni O, Szymanska J, Larramendy ML, Tapper J, Pere H, El-Rifai W, Hemmer S, Wasenius V-M, Vidgren V & Zhu Y: DNA copy number amplifications in human neoplasms. Review of comparative genomic hybridization studies. Am J Pathol
20 152:1107-1123, 1998. http://www.helsinki.fi/~lgl_www/CMG.html).

The phosphatase classification and protein domains often reflect pathways, cellular roles, or mechanisms of up- or down-stream regulation. Also disease-relevant genes often occur in families of related genes. For example, if one member of a phosphatase family functions as an oncogene, a tumor suppressor, or has been
25 found to be disrupted in an immune, neurologic, cardiovascular, or metabolic disorder, frequently other family members may play a related role.

Chromosomal location can identify candidate targets for a tumor amplicon or a tumor-suppressor locus. Summaries of prevalent tumor amplicons are available in the literature, and can identify tumor types to experimentally be confirmed to

contain amplified copies of a phosphatase gene which localizes to an adjacent region.

A more specific characterization of the polypeptides of the invention, including potential biological and clinical implications, is provided, *e.g.*, in

5 EXAMPLES 2 and 3.

CLASSIFICATION OF POLYPEPTIDES EXHIBITING PHOSPHATASE ACTIVITY

The polypeptides described in the present invention may belong to one of the
10 following groups: (1) dual-specificity group of protein phosphatases (DSP); (2) serine-threonine phosphatases (STP); or (3) protein tyrosine phosphatases (PTP). This classification relies, at least in part, on the conserved core amino acid sequence motifs that make up the catalytic domain of this class of phosphatases.

15 *DSP Group*

The unique signature motifs of the catalytic domain of the dual-specificity class of phosphatases is responsible for the ability of these enzymes to dephosphorylate phosphoserine/phosphothreonine as well phosphotyrosine residues. The dual-specificity group of protein phosphatases include the family member MAP
20 kinase phosphatases (MKP). A description of the structural and functional characteristics for the MKP family now follows.

MKP family

Novel MKP-like phosphatases in this application include SGP006 (SEQ ID
25 NO:1), SGP002 (SEQ ID NO:2), SGP001 (SEQ ID NO:3), SGP018 (SEQ ID NO:4), SGP003 (SEQ ID NO:5), SGP014 (SEQ ID NO:6), SGP060 (SEQ ID NO:7), and SGP008 (SEQ ID NO:8), which are disclosed in greater detail in the Tables 1-6 and Example 2, for example

heidelberg.de/smart/get_members.pl?WHAT=species&NAME=DSPc&WHICH=Ho
mo_sapiens). Well-known members of the MPK family of dual-specificity
phosphatases include: DUS1 (also known as MPK-1, CL100, PTPN-10, erp, VH1 or
3CH134), DUS3 (also known as VHR), DUS4 (also known as HVH2, TYP1, MKP2
5 or VH2), DUS5 (also known as HVH3, B23, VH3), DUS6 (also known as PYST1,
MKP3, rVH6), DUS7 (also known as PYST2), CDKN3 (also known as CDKN3,
KAP, CIP2 or CII), VH5 and STYX.

Most MKP phosphatases are capable of inactivating, through a
dephosphorylation reaction, kinases that participate in the MAPK pathways. The
10 ERK (extracellular signal-regulated kinase), JNK/SAPK (c-Jun N-terminal
kinase/stress-activated protein kinase) and p38 MAP kinase pathways mediate the
signal transduction events that are responsible for cell division, differentiation or
apoptosis in response to extracellular ligands (Cobb MH, *Prog Biophys Mol Biol*.
1999;71(3-4):479-500). Full MAP kinase enzymatic activation requires the
15 concomitant phosphorylation by selective upstream dual-specificity kinases of
threonine and tyrosine residues residing in the activation loop of the MAP kinases.
MKP family dual-specificity phosphatases mediate MAP kinase inactivation by
dephosphorylating these threonine and tyrosine residues. This mechanism provides
negative feedback regulation of the MAP kinase pathways. MKPs may play a
20 significant role in human cancer by attenuating MAP kinase cascades involved in
cellular transformation.

Given the large number of MAP kinases, as well as MKP's, a central
question is whether there is selectivity in kinase substrate recognition by MKP's.
Evidence that such specificity exists is provided by DUS-6 (MKP3) and VH5 which
25 have been shown to be highly selective phosphatases towards the ERK or
JNK/SAPK and p38 MAP kinases, respectively (Muda M. et al., *J Biol Chem*. 1996
Nov 1;271(44):27205-8.). Another level of substrate specificity comes from
subcellular compartmentalization as shown by DUS-6 (MKP3) which is found
exclusively in the cytosol rather than in the nucleus (Groom, L.A. et al (1996)

EMBO J. 15: 3621-3632). Further specificity can arise at the level of the tissue specificity of expression (i.e. Muda, M. et al (1997) J. Biol. Chem. 272:5141-5151).

MKP's appear to be as ubiquitous in their phylogenetic distribution as their MAP kinase counterparts with multiple members present in yeast (i.e. YVH1), *C. elegans* (i.e. Y042), *Drosophila*, (i.e. *puckered*), plants (i.e. DsPTP1) and mammals. The primary mode of action of MKP's isolated from different species appears to be MAPK dephosphorylation thereby providing negative feedback to the MAPK signal transduction pathways.

MKP's may play an important role during pathophysiological hypoxia as suggested by the induction of MKP-1 gene expression under low oxygen conditions (Laderoute, K. R. (1999) J. Biol. Chem. 274:12890-12897). Tumor hypoxia is directly linked to the onset of angiogenesis during malignant progression (Hanahan, D. et al (1996) Cell 86:353-364 and Mazure, N.M. et al (1996) Cancer Res. 56:3436-3440). A number of genes have been found to be induced during hypoxic conditions such as the heat shock transcription factor-1 (HSF-1) (Benjamin, I.J. et al. (1990) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 87:6263-6267), c-fos and c-jun (Ausserer, W.A. et al (1994) Mol. Cell. Biol. 14:5032-5042, and Muller, J.M. (1997) J. Biol. Chem 272:23435-23439) and the hypoxia-inducible factor-1 (HIF-1) (Wenger, R.H. et al (1997) J. Biol. Chem. 378:609-616). MKP-1 transcripts and protein have been shown to be upregulated in early-stage carcinomas well as in multiple stages of breast and prostate carcinomas (i.e. Leav, I. Et al (1996) Lab. Invest. 75: 361-370). Over-expression of MKP-1 in prostate tumor cell lines confers resistance to Fas ligand-induced apoptosis (Srikanth, S. et al. (1999) Mol. Cell. Biochem. 199: 169-178) and it has also been suggested that MKP-1 may contribute to the inhibition of apoptosis resulting in androgen-independent growth. MKP-1 may also inhibit the induction of apoptosis that is produced by anti-neoplastic agents such as cisplatin and

Submitted by: Sushil K. Datta, et al., to the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Ip, Y.T. et al (1998) Curr. Opin. Cell Biol. 10:205-219) and MAPK phosphatases provide negative feedback to this pathway, it is conceivable that MKP-1 supports tumor growth by blocking apoptosis. Over-expression of MKP-1 can block the hypoxia-induced activation of SAPK/JNK in co-transfected tumor cells (Laderoute, K. R. (1999) J. Biol. Chem. 274:12890-12897).

The dephosphorylation and subsequent inactivation of ERK-1 and ERK-2 by MAPK phosphatases may also be responsible for suppressing angiogenic vascular endothelial cell proliferation by angiostatin Redlitz, A. et al. (1999 J. Vasc. Res 36:28-34).

The novel MPK family phosphatases presented in this filing contribute to a growing list of phosphatases that appear to have as their primary function negative feedback regulation of MAPK signal transduction. Since there is precedence for selectivity in the mechanism of action at the level of substrate recognition, subcellular localization and tissue distribution among the known MPK's, the novel MPK's described may display similar selectivity. The novel MPK's may also play a role in suppressing apoptosis by blocking the JNK/SAPK pathway during pathological hypoxia such as that occurring in angiogenic tumors. The development of specific phosphatase inhibitors that target the anti-apoptotic MKP's may prove valuable as an approach to cancer therapy.

PTP Group

There are 2 PTP-like sequences in this application: SGP012 (SEQ ID NO:11) and SGP024 (SEQ ID NO:12), which are disclosed in greater detail in the Tables 1-6 and Example 2, for example.

SGP012 is closely related to murine OST-PTP, also called PTP-ESP. Osteotesticular PTP (OST-PTP) is a putative receptor protein tyrosine phosphatase that possesses 10 fibronectin type III repeats, a potential membrane-spanning region and an intracellular domain consisting of two tandem catalytic domains. The

expression pattern is highly restricted and is detectable primarily in bone and testis (Mauro et al. J Biol Chem 1996 269:30659-67). The ligand for OST-PTP is not known but the structure of the extracellular domain suggests that cell-cell interactions may be involved. Importantly, the human ortholog has not yet been
5 cloned.

The balance between bone deposition and resorption is controlled by the relative activities of two cell types, osteoblasts and osteoclasts. The potential role of phosphatases in bone metabolism is only incompletely understood. However, in osteoblast cultures, inhibition of PTP activity with orthovanadate enhances matrix
10 formation (Lau et al. Endocrinology 188 123:2858-67). In addition, bisphosphonates, which are used clinically to treat bone diseases with excess resorption, cause a range of changes in osteoblast cultures that are consistent with increased bone deposition including osteoblast differentiation, alkaline phosphatase activity, type I collagen secretion, and mineralization (Reinholz et al. Cancer Research 2000 60:6001-007).
15 The molecular target of these compounds is still unknown, but it is plausible that inhibition of OST-PTP activity is responsible for the observed increases in bone-forming activities in osteoblast cultures. Therefore targeting of OST-PTP activity could provide treatments for osteoporosis, non-healing fractures, and other disorders of bone metabolism.

20 SGP024 represents a partial PTPT catalytic domain related to PTP-delta.

STP Group

There are 2 STP proteins in this application: SGP039 (SEQ ID NO:9) and SGP040 (SEQ ID NO:10), which are disclosed in greater detail in the Tables 1-6 and Example 2, for example.

25 The Serine-threonine phosphatases can be divided into four major classes

components such as small T antigen. Mutations in one of the regulatory subunits have been associated with colorectal cancers consistent with a role as a tumor suppressor (Takagi et al. Gut 2000 47:268-71. Recently, PP2a has also been implicated in activation of T lymphocytes (Chuang et al. Immunity 2000 13:313-22). PP1 has been implicated in a variety of cellular functions including response to hypoxia, apoptosis and cytokinesis (Taylor *et al.*, PNAS 2000 97:12091-96, Aylion *et al.* EMBO J 2000 19 2237-46, Orr *et al.*, *Infect. Immun.* 2000 68:1350-58). Finally, studies in diabetic rats showed decreased PP1 activity and elevated PP2A activity compared to controls (Begum and Ragolia Metabolism 1998 47:54-62).

10 Because of the diversity of regulatory subunits that affect the activity of serine-threonine phosphatases, biological function of novel members are difficult to predict. However, the studies suggest potential involvement in a variety of diseases including tumorigenesis, inflammatory diseases, and metabolic diseases.

THERAPEUTIC METHODS ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION:

15

Diagnostics:

The invention provides methods for detecting a polypeptide in a sample as a diagnostic tool for diseases or disorders, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

20 (a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe which hybridizes under hybridization assay conditions to a nucleic acid target region of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, said

25 probe comprising the nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide, fragments thereof, and the complements of the sequences and fragments; and (b) detecting the presence or amount of the probe:target region hybrid as an indication of the disease.

In preferred embodiments of the invention, the disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, atherosclerosis, autoimmune disorders, organ transplantation, myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, stroke.

30

renal failure, oxidative stress-related neurodegenerative disorders, metabolic disorder including diabetes, reproductive disorders including infertility, and cancer.

Hybridization conditions should be such that hybridization occurs only with the genes in the presence of other nucleic acid molecules. Under stringent
5 hybridization conditions only highly complementary nucleic acid sequences hybridize. Preferably, such conditions prevent hybridization of nucleic acids having 1 or 2 mismatches out of 20 contiguous nucleotides. Such conditions are defined herein.

The diseases for which detection of genes in a sample could be diagnostic
10 include diseases in which nucleic acid (DNA and/or RNA) is amplified in comparison to normal cells. By "amplification" is meant increased numbers of DNA or RNA in a cell compared with normal cells.

"Amplification" as it refers to RNA can be the detectable presence of RNA in cells, since in some normal cells there is no basal expression of RNA. In other
15 normal cells, a basal level of expression exists, therefore in these cases amplification is the detection of at least 1-2-fold, and preferably more, compared to the basal level.

The diseases that could be diagnosed by detection of nucleic acid in a sample preferably include cancers. The test samples suitable for nucleic acid probing methods of the present invention include, for example, cells or nucleic acid extracts
20 of cells, or biological fluids. The samples used in the above-described methods will vary based on the assay format, the detection method and the nature of the tissues, cells or extracts to be assayed. Methods for preparing nucleic acid extracts of cells are well known in the art and can be readily adapted in order to obtain a sample that is compatible with the method utilized.

25 **Antibodies, Hybridomas, Methods of Use and Kits for Detection Phosphatases:**

The present invention relates to an antibody having binding affinity to a

NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or a functional derivative thereof, or at least 9 contiguous amino acids thereof (preferably, at least 20, 30, 35, or 40 contiguous amino acids thereof).

The present invention also relates to an antibody having specific binding
5 affinity to a phosphatase of the invention. Such an antibody may be isolated by comparing its binding affinity to a phosphatase of the invention with its binding affinity to other polypeptides. Those which bind selectively to a phosphatase of the invention would be chosen for use in methods requiring a distinction between a phosphatase of the invention and other polypeptides. Such methods could include,
10 but should not be limited to, the analysis of altered phosphatase expression in tissue containing other polypeptides.

The phosphatases of the present invention can be used in a variety of procedures and methods, such as for the generation of antibodies, for use in identifying pharmaceutical compositions, and for studying DNA/protein interaction.

15 The phosphatases of the present invention can be used to produce antibodies or hybridomas. One skilled in the art will recognize that if an antibody is desired, such a peptide could be generated as described herein and used as an immunogen. The antibodies of the present invention include monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies, as well fragments of these antibodies, and humanized forms. Humanized
20 forms of the antibodies of the present invention may be generated using one of the procedures known in the art such as chimerization or CDR grafting.

The present invention also relates to a hybridoma which produces the above-described monoclonal antibody, or binding fragment thereof. A hybridoma is an immortalized cell line which is capable of secreting a specific monoclonal antibody.

25 In general, techniques for preparing monoclonal antibodies and hybridomas are well known in the art (Campbell, "Monoclonal Antibody Technology: Laboratory Techniques in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology," Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1984; St. Groth *et al.*, J. Immunol. Methods 35:1-21, 1980). Any animal (mouse, rabbit, and the like) which is known
30 to produce antibodies can be immunized with the selected polypeptide. Methods for

immunization are well known in the art. Such methods include subcutaneous or intraperitoneal injection of the polypeptide. One skilled in the art will recognize that the amount of polypeptide used for immunization will vary based on the animal which is immunized, the antigenicity of the polypeptide and the site of injection.

5 The polypeptide may be modified or administered in an adjuvant in order to increase the peptide antigenicity. Methods of increasing the antigenicity of a polypeptide are well known in the art. Such procedures include coupling the antigen with a heterologous protein (such as globulin or β -galactosidase) or through the inclusion of an adjuvant during immunization.

10 For monoclonal antibodies, spleen cells from the immunized animals are removed, fused with myeloma cells, such as SP2/0-Ag14 myeloma cells, and allowed to become monoclonal antibody producing hybridoma cells. Any one of a number of methods well known in the art can be used to identify the hybridoma cell which produces an antibody with the desired characteristics. These include
15 screening the hybridomas with an ELISA assay, western blot analysis, or radioimmunoassay (Lutz *et al.*, Exp. Cell Res. 175:109-124, 1988). Hybridomas secreting the desired antibodies are cloned and the class and subclass are determined using procedures known in the art (Campbell, "Monoclonal Antibody Technology: Laboratory Techniques in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology", *supra*, 1984).

20 For polyclonal antibodies, antibody-containing antisera is isolated from the immunized animal and is screened for the presence of antibodies with the desired specificity using one of the above-described procedures. The above-described antibodies may be detectably labeled. Antibodies can be detectably labeled through the use of radioisotopes, affinity labels (such as biotin, avidin, and the like),
25 enzymatic labels (such as horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, and the like) fluorescent labels (such as FITC or rhodamine, and the like), paramagnetic atoms, and the like. Procedures for accomplishing such labeling are well-known in the art, *see, e.g.*, Sambrook *et al.*, *MOLECULAR CLONING*, 2ND EDITION (1989), D. W.

be used for *in vitro*, *in vivo*, and *in situ* assays to identify cells or tissues which express a specific peptide.

The above-described antibodies may also be immobilized on a solid support. Examples of such solid supports include plastics such as polycarbonate, complex
5 carbohydrates such as agarose and sepharose, acrylic resins such as polyacrylamide and latex beads. Techniques for coupling antibodies to such solid supports are well known in the art (Weir *et al.*, "Handbook of Experimental Immunology" 4th Ed., Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, England, Chapter 10, 1986; Jacoby *et al.*, Meth. Enzym. 34, Academic Press, N.Y., 1974). The immobilized antibodies of the
10 present invention can be used for *in vitro*, *in vivo*, and *in situ* assays as well as in immunochromatography.

Furthermore, one skilled in the art can readily adapt currently available procedures, as well as the techniques, methods and kits disclosed herein with regard to antibodies, to generate peptides capable of binding to a specific peptide sequence
15 in order to generate rationally designed antipeptide peptides (Hurby *et al.*, "Application of Synthetic Peptides: Antisense Peptides", In Synthetic Peptides, A User's Guide, W.H. Freeman, NY, pp. 289-307, 1992; Kasieczak *et al.*, Biochemistry 28:9230-9238, 1989).

Anti-peptide peptides can be generated by replacing the basic amino acid
20 residues found in the peptide sequences of the phosphatases of the invention with acidic residues, while maintaining hydrophobic and uncharged polar groups. For example, lysine, arginine, and/or histidine residues are replaced with aspartic acid or glutamic acid and glutamic acid residues are replaced by lysine, arginine or histidine.

25 The present invention also encompasses a method of detecting a phosphatase polypeptide in a sample, comprising: (a) contacting the sample with an above-described antibody, under conditions such that immunocomplexes form, and (b) detecting the presence of said antibody bound to the polypeptide. In detail, the methods comprise incubating a test sample with one or more of the antibodies of the
30 present invention and assaying whether the antibody binds to the test sample.

Altered levels of a phosphatase of the invention in a sample as compared to normal levels may indicate disease.

Conditions for incubating an antibody with a test sample vary. Incubation conditions depend on the format employed in the assay, the detection methods
5 employed, and the type and nature of the antibody used in the assay. One skilled in the art will recognize that any one of the commonly available immunological assay formats (such as radioimmunoassays, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays, diffusion-based Ouchterlony, or rocket immunofluorescent assays) can readily be adapted to employ the antibodies of the present invention. Examples of such assays
10 can be found in Chard ("An Introduction to Radioimmunoassay and Related Techniques" Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1986), Bullock *et al.* ("Techniques in Immunocytochemistry," Academic Press, Orlando, FL Vol. 1, 1982; Vol. 2, 1983; Vol. 3, 1985), Tijssen ("Practice and Theory of Enzyme Immunoassays: Laboratory Techniques in Biochemistry and Molecular
15 Biology," Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1985).

The immunological assay test samples of the present invention include cells, protein or membrane extracts of cells, or biological fluids such as blood, serum, plasma, or urine. The test samples used in the above-described method will vary based on the assay format, nature of the detection method and the tissues, cells or
20 extracts used as the sample to be assayed. Methods for preparing protein extracts or membrane extracts of cells are well known in the art and can readily be adapted in order to obtain a sample which is testable with the system utilized.

A kit contains all the necessary reagents to carry out the previously described methods of detection. The kit may comprise: (i) a first container means containing
25 an above-described antibody, and (ii) second container means containing a conjugate comprising a binding partner of the antibody and a label. In another preferred embodiment, the kit further comprises one or more other containers comprising one or more of the following: wash reagents and reagents capable of detecting the

Examples of detection reagents include, but are not limited to, labeled secondary antibodies, or in the alternative, if the primary antibody is labeled, the chromophoric, enzymatic, or antibody binding reagents which are capable of reacting with the labeled antibody. The compartmentalized kit may be as described
5 above for nucleic acid probe kits. One skilled in the art will readily recognize that the antibodies described in the present invention can readily be incorporated into one of the established kit formats which are well known in the art.

Isolation of Compounds Which Interact With Phosphatases

The present invention also relates to a method of detecting a compound
10 capable of binding to a phosphatase of the invention comprising incubating the compound with a phosphatase of the invention and detecting the presence of the compound bound to the phosphatase. The compound may be present within a complex mixture, for example, serum, body fluid, or cell extracts.

The present invention also relates to a method of detecting an agonist or
15 antagonist of phosphatase activity or phosphatase binding partner activity comprising incubating cells that produce a phosphatase of the invention in the presence of a compound and detecting changes in the level of phosphatase activity or phosphatase binding partner activity. The compounds thus identified would produce a change in activity indicative of the presence of the compound. The
20 compound may be present within a complex mixture, for example, serum, body fluid, or cell extracts. Once the compound is identified it can be isolated using techniques well known in the art.

Modulating polypeptide activity:

25

The invention additionally provides methods for treating a disease or abnormal condition by administering to a patient in need of such treatment a substance that modulates the activity of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ
30 ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ

ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, a functional derivative thereof, and a fragment thereof. Preferably, the disease is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, atherosclerosis, autoimmune disorders, organ transplantation, myocardial infarction, cardiomyopathies, stroke, renal failure; oxidative stress-
5 related neurodegenerative disorders, metabolic and reproductive disorders, and cancer.

Substances useful for treatment of disorders or diseases preferably show positive results in one or more assays for an activity corresponding to treatment of the disease or disorder in question. Substances that modulate the activity of the
10 polypeptides preferably include, but are not limited to, antisense oligonucleotides and inhibitors of protein phosphatases.

The term "preventing" refers to decreasing the probability that an organism contracts or develops an abnormal condition.

The term "treating" refers to having a therapeutic effect and at least partially
15 alleviating or abrogating an abnormal condition in the organism.

The term "therapeutic effect" refers to the inhibition or activation factors causing or contributing to the abnormal condition. A therapeutic effect relieves to some extent one or more of the symptoms of the abnormal condition. In reference to the treatment of abnormal conditions, a therapeutic effect can refer to one or more of
20 the following: (a) an increase in the proliferation, growth, and/or differentiation of cells; (b) inhibition (, slowing or stopping) of cell death; (c) inhibition of degeneration; (d) relieving to some extent one or more of the symptoms associated with the abnormal condition; and (e) enhancing the function of the affected population of cells. Compounds demonstrating efficacy against abnormal conditions
25 can be identified as described herein.

The term "abnormal condition" refers to a function in the cells or tissues of an organism that deviates from their normal functions in that organism. An abnormal condition can relate to cell proliferation, cell differentiation, cell

progression, i.e., irregularities in normal cell cycle progression through mitosis and meiosis.

Abnormal cell proliferative conditions include cancers such as fibrotic and mesangial disorders, abnormal angiogenesis and vasculogenesis, wound healing,
5 psoriasis, diabetes mellitus, and inflammation.

Abnormal differentiation conditions include, but are not limited to, neurodegenerative disorders, slow wound healing rates, and slow tissue grafting healing rates.

Abnormal cell survival conditions may also relate to conditions in which
10 programmed cell death (apoptosis) pathways are activated or abrogated. A number of protein phosphatases are associated with the apoptosis pathways. Aberrations in the function of any one of the protein phosphatases could lead to cell immortality or premature cell death.

The term "aberration", in conjunction with the function of a phosphatase in a
15 signal transduction process, refers to a phosphatase that is over- or under-expressed in an organism, mutated such that its catalytic activity is lower or higher than wild-type protein phosphatase activity, mutated such that it can no longer interact with a natural binding partner, is no longer modified by another protein kinase or protein phosphatase, or no longer interacts with a natural binding partner.

20 The term "administering" relates to a method of incorporating a compound into cells or tissues of an organism. The abnormal condition can be prevented or treated when the cells or tissues of the organism exist within the organism or outside of the organism. Cells existing outside the organism can be maintained or grown in cell culture dishes. For cells harbored within the organism, many techniques exist in
25 the art to administer compounds, including (but not limited to) oral, parenteral, dermal, injection, and aerosol applications. For cells outside of the organism, multiple techniques exist in the art to administer the compounds, including (but not limited to) cell microinjection techniques, transformation techniques and carrier techniques.

The abnormal condition can also be prevented or treated by administering a compound to a group of cells having an aberration in a signal transduction pathway to an organism. The effect of administering a compound on organism function can then be monitored. The organism is preferably a mouse, rat, rabbit, guinea pig or
5 goat, more preferably a monkey or ape, and most preferably a human.

Stimulating or Antagonizing Phosphatase-associated Activity

The present invention also encompasses a method of agonizing (stimulating) or antagonizing phosphatase associated activity in a mammal comprising
10 administering to said mammal an agonist or antagonist to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, a
15 functional derivative thereof, and a fragment thereof in an amount sufficient to effect said agonism or antagonism. The present application also contemplates a method of treating diseases in a mammal with an agonist or antagonist of the activity of one of the above mentioned polypeptides of the invention comprising administering the agonist or antagonist to a mammal in an amount sufficient to agonize or antagonize a phosphatase-associated function.

20 The relevance of a phosphatase gene to a particular diseased condition can be evaluated in order to effect treatment. According to one embodiment of the present invention, microarray expression analysis is performed to establish expression profiles of various phosphatase genes according to the invention, and thereby identify the ones whose expression correlates with certain diseased conditions.

25 Due to the broad functional implications of various phosphatase families, such treatment may be effectuated to a wide range of diseases, including cancer, pathophysiological hypoxia, cardiovascular disorders, Papillon-Lefevre syndrome,

invention provides methods for treating pathologies, including breast cancer, urogenital cancer, prostate cancer, head and neck cancer, lung cancer, synovial sarcomas, renal cell carcinoma, non-small cell lung cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma, pancreatic endocrine tumors, stomach cancer, glioblastoma, colorectal
5 cancer, and thyroid cancer.

For example, cDNAs made from RNA samples of a variety of tissue sources were spotted onto nylon membranes and hybridized with radio-labeled probes derived from the phosphatase genes of interest. Referring to Example 3 and table 5, phosphatase gene sequences used include: SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, and SEQ
10 ID NO:7. As discussed in the description of Table 5, *infra*, samples from normal tissues, tumor tissues, various cell lines, and P53 wild type and mutant were used to make the expression array. As shown in Example 3, the relative gene expression levels of the tested phosphatase genes in various tissue sources and cell lines were quantitated by measuring Syber Green I staining of hybridized signals. The
15 numerical readings recorded in the table were normalized to the hybridization result from ds cDNA or undenatured probes, after subtracting the background counts.

Together with the information of corresponding nucleic acid and amino acid sequences provided herein, the relevant expression levels in Table 5 constitutes expression profiles of the phosphatase genes of interest in various tissue sources.
20 Such expression profile data guides application of the treatment regime according to the present invention. For example, referring to the sample, "M14" cell line (a malignant melanoma) in Table 5, the levels of expression of SEQ ID NO:4 is zero. The level of expression of SEQ ID NO:7 (58) is low to marginal. However, the level of expression of SEQ ID NO:5 (2,528) is significantly higher. Such horizontal
25 comparison reveals that the phosphatase gene encoded by SEQ ID NO:5 is implicated in melanoma. That is, manipulation of the function activities of this gene may affect the cancerous condition of malignant melanoma. SEQ ID NO:5 (SGP003) encodes SEQ ID NO:17, a protein belonging to the MKP family, as shown in Table 1, for example. Therefore, a method of treating the cancer condition

connected to a malignant melanoma can be, for example, to administer to the patient suffering from this cancer an agent that is capable of modulating the activities of the phosphatase activity of the protein represented by SEQ ID NO:17. The expression analysis according to the preferred embodiment of this invention, thus, confers
5 specificity and effectiveness to the method of treatment disclosed.

It should be appreciated that many ways of comparison and correlation analysis may be carried out, based on expression data generated in the way similar to that described in Example 3. These ways will be apparent to one skilled in the art, based on the above discussion and, therefore, fall within the scope of the invention.
10 Inferences derived from those comparison and correlation analysis similarly may be used in substantiating a treatment method or regimen, according to the invention. For instance, when pairs of samples of normal tissues and diseased tissues are used to make the expression arrays, the data generated will specifically demonstrate which phosphatase genes are differentially expressed in certain diseased conditions
15 and, thereby, form targets of the treatment method according to the present invention. That is, modulators or agents that are capable of regulating their activities, either *in vivo* or *in vitro*, may be identified and used in the treatment of the given diseased conditions.

According to the present invention, there also is provided a method for
20 detecting a phosphatase in a sample as a diagnostic tool for a disease or disorder using nucleotide probes derived from the phosphatase gene sequences disclosed in the present invention, such as those disclosed herein. Due to the broad functional implications of various phosphatase families, such diagnostic measures may be used for a wide range of diseases, including cancer, pathophysiological hypoxia,
25 cardiovascular disorders, Papillon-Lefevre syndrome, Cowden disease, ectodermal dysplasia, Moebius syndrome, Bjornstad syndrome, Bannayan Zonana syndrome,

synovial sarcomas, renal cell carcinoma, non-small cell lung cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma, pancreatic endocrine tumors, stomach cancer, glioblastoma, colorectal cancer, and thyroid cancer.

5 In a similar vein, it is useful to determine the level of relevance of a phosphatase gene to a particular diseased condition in order to effect accurate diagnoses. Such determinations can be accomplished by performing microarray expression analysis according to one embodiment of this invention. The phosphatase genes whose expression correlates with certain diseased conditions may be identified by the procedure described above.

10 The data obtained from the microarray data also can be used to diagnose a patient who may be suffering from a particular pathology. A method of diagnosing the cancer condition connected to melanoma, according to the present invention is, therefore, to contact a test sample, which may be collected from a patient, with a nucleotide probe which is capable of hybridizing to the nucleic acid sequence which
15 encodes the protein represented by SEQ ID NO:17; and then to detect the presence of the hybridized probe:target pairs and to quantify the level of such hybridization as an indication of the cancer condition connected to neuroblastoma. The expression analysis according to the preferred embodiment of this invention, thus, confers specificity and effectiveness to the diagnostic method disclosed.

20 As discussed above, many ways of comparison and correlation analysis may be carried out based on expression data generated in the way similar to that described here; they also necessarily fall in the scope of the present invention. Inferences derived from those comparison and correlation analysis may similarly be used in substantiating the diagnostic method according to this invention. One
25 scenario to be noted is when pairs of samples of normal tissues and diseased tissues are used to make the expression arrays, the data generated will specifically demonstrate which phosphatase genes are differentially expressed in certain diseased conditions, therefore may serve as diagnostic markers used in the aforementioned diagnostic method.

According to the present invention, there also is provided another method for detection of a phosphatase in a sample as a diagnostic tool for a disease or disorder by comparing a nucleic acid target region of the phosphatase genes disclosed in the present invention, such genes encoding the amino acid sequences listed in Figure 2, with a control region; and then detecting differences in sequence or amount between the target region and control region as an indication of the disease or disorder. This method also may be used for diagnosing a wide range of diseases, including cancer, pathophysiological hypoxia, cardiovascular disorders, Papillon-Lefevre syndrome, Cowden disease, ectodermal dysplasia, Moebius syndrome, Bjornstad syndrome, Bannayan Zonana syndrome, schizophrenia and hamartomas. Of particular importance is diagnosis of various type of cancers. As the aforementioned diagnostic method, this particular method may similarly be used to test for breast cancer, urogenital cancer, prostate cancer, head and neck cancer, lung cancer, synovial sarcomas, renal cell carcinoma, non-small cell lung cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma, pancreatic endocrine tumors, stomach cancer, glioblastoma, colorectal cancer, and thyroid cancer.

A target region can be any particular region of interest in a phosphatase gene, such as an upstream regulatory region. Variations of sequence in an upstream regulatory region in a family of phosphatase often have functional implications some of which may be significant in bringing about certain diseased conditions. Changes of the amount of a target region, *e.g.*, changes of number of copies of a regulatory region such as a receptor-binding site, in certain phosphatase genes, may also represent mechanisms of functional differentiation and hence may be connected to certain diseased states. Detection of such differences in sequence and amount of a target region compared to a control region therefore may effectively lead to detection of a diseased condition.

may be made that correspond to a given target region and a control region, respectively, of a phosphatase gene of interest. Samples from normal and diseased tissues are used to make microarray as discussed, *supra*, and in Example 3. Hybridization of these probes to the array so made will yield comparative profiles of the region of interest in the normal and diseased condition, and thus may derive a definition of differences of the target region and control region that is characterized of the disease in question. Such definition, in turn, may serve as an indication of the diseased condition as used in the second-mentioned diagnostic method according to the present invention. It should be appreciated that many equivalent or similar methods may be used in carrying out the diagnosis according to this method which would become apparent to the skilled person in the art based on the example provided here, and therefore, they are covered in the scope of this invention.

In an effort to discover novel treatments for diseases, biomedical researchers and chemists have designed, synthesized, and tested molecules that inhibit the function of protein phosphatases. Some small organic molecules form a class of compounds that modulate the function of protein phosphatases. Examples of molecules that have been reported to inhibit the function of protein phosphatases include, but are not limited to, bis monocyclic, bicyclic or heterocyclic aryl compounds (PCT WO 92/20642, published November 26, 1992 by Maguire *et al.*), vinylene-azaindole derivatives (PCT WO 94/14808, published July 7, 1994 by Ballinari *et al.*), 1-cyclopropyl-4-pyridyl-quinolones (U.S. Patent No. 5,330,992), styryl compounds (U.S. Patent No. 5,217,999), styryl-substituted pyridyl compounds (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,606), certain quinazoline derivatives (EP Application No. 0 566 266 A1), seleoindoles and selenides (PCT WO 94/03427, published February 17, 1994 by Denny *et al.*), tricyclic polyhydroxylic compounds (PCT WO 92/21660, published December 10, 1992 by Dow), and benzylphosphonic acid compounds (PCT WO 91/15495, published October 17, 1991 by Dow *et al.*).

Compounds that can traverse cell membranes and are resistant to acid hydrolysis are potentially advantageous as therapeutics as they can become highly bioavailable after being administered orally to patients. However, many of these protein phosphatase inhibitors only weakly inhibit the function of protein phosphatases. In addition, many inhibit a variety of protein phosphatases and will therefore cause multiple side-effects as therapeutics for diseases.

Some indolinone compounds, however, form classes of acid resistant and membrane permeable organic molecules. WO 96/22976 (published August 1, 1996 by Ballinari *et al.*) describes hydrosoluble indolinone compounds that harbor tetralin, naphthalene, quinoline, and indole substituents fused to the oxindole ring. These bicyclic substituents are in turn substituted with polar moieties including hydroxylated alkyl, phosphate, and ether moieties. U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 08/702,232, filed August 23, 1996, entitled "Indolinone Combinatorial Libraries and Related Products and Methods for the Treatment of Disease" by Tang *et al.* (U.S. Serial No. 08/702,232) and U.S. Patent No. 5,880,141, entitled "Benzylidene-Z-Indoline Compounds for the Treatment of Disease" by Tang *et al.* (U.S. Serial No. 08/485,323) and International Patent Publications WO 96/40116, published December 19, 1996 by Tang, *et al.*, and WO 96/22976, published August 1, 1996 by Ballinari *et al.*, all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety, including any drawings, figures, or tables, describe indolinone chemical libraries of indolinone compounds harboring other bicyclic moieties as well as monocyclic moieties fused to the oxindole ring. Application Serial No. 08/702,232, filed August 23, 1996, entitled "Indolinone Combinatorial Libraries and Related Products and Methods for the Treatment of Disease" by Tang *et al.*; U.S. Patent No. 5,880,141, filed June 7, 1995, entitled "Benzylidene-Z-Indoline Compounds for the Treatment of Disease" by Tang *et al.* (U.S. Serial No. 08/485,323), and WO 96/22976, published August 1, 1996 by Ballinari *et al.* teach methods of indolinone synthesis, methods of testing the biological activity of indolinone compounds in

Other examples of substances capable of modulating phosphatase activity include, but are not limited to, tyrphostins, quinazolines, quinoxolines, and quinolines. The quinazolines, tyrphostins, quinolines, and quinoxolines referred to above include well known compounds such as those described in the literature. For example, representative publications describing quinazolines include Barker *et al.*, EPO Publication No. 0 520 722 A1; Jones *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,447,608; Kabbe *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,757,072; Kaul and Vougioukas, U.S. Patent No. 5,316,553; Kreighbaum and Comer, U.S. Patent No. 4,343,940; Pegg and Wardleworth, FPO Publication No. 0 562 734 A1; Barker *et al.*, (1991) Proc. of Am. Assoc. for Cancer Research 32:327; Bertino, J.R., (1979) Cancer Research 3:293-304; Bertino, J.R., (1979) Cancer Research 9(2 part 1):293-304; Curtin *et al.*, (1986) Br. J. Cancer 53:361-368; Fernandes *et al.*, (1983) Cancer Research 43:1117-1123; Ferris *et al.*, J. Org. Chem. 44(2):173-178; Fry *et al.*, (1994) *Science* 265:1093-1095; Jackman *et al.*, (1981) Cancer Research 51:5579-5586; Jones *et al.*, J. Med. Chem. 29(6):1114-1118; Lee and Skibo, (1987) Biochemistry 26(23):7355-7362; Lemus *et al.*, (1989) J. Org. Chem. 54:3511-3518; Ley and Seng, (1975) *Synthesis* 1975:415-522; Maxwell *et al.*, (1991) *Magnetic Resonance in Medicine* 17:189-196; Mini *et al.*, (1985) Cancer Research 45:325-330; Phillips and Castle, J. (1980) *Heterocyclic Chem.* 17(19):1489-1596; Reece *et al.*, (1977) Cancer Research 47(11):2996-2999; Sculier *et al.*, (1986) Cancer Immunol. and Immunother. 23. A65; Sikora *et al.*, (1984) Cancer Letters 23:289-295; Sikora *et al.*, (1988) *Analytical Biochem.* 172:344-355; all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety, including any drawings.

Quinoxaline is described in Kaul and Vougioukas, U.S. Patent No. 5,316,553, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, including any drawings.

Quinolines are described in Dolle *et al.*, (1994) J. Med. Chem. 37:2627-2629; MaGuire, J. (1994) Med. Chem. 37:2129-2131; Burke *et al.*, (1993) J. Med. Chem. 36:425-432; and Burke *et al.*, (1992) *BioOrganic Med. Chem. Letters* 2:1771-1774, all of which are incorporated by reference in their entirety, including any drawings.

Tyrophostins are described in Allen *et al.*, (1993) Clin. Exp. Immunol. 91:141-156; Anafi *et al.*, (1993) Blood 82:12, 3524-3529; Baker *et al.*, (1992) J. Cell Sci. 102:543-555; Bilder *et al.*, (1991) Amer. Physiol. Soc. pp. 6363-6143;C721-C730; Brunton *et al.*, (1992) Proceedings of Amer. Assoc. Cancer Rsch. 33:558; Bryckaert *et al.*, (1992) Exp. Cell Research 199:255-261; Dong *et al.*, (1993) J. Leukocyte Biology 53:53-60; Dong *et al.*, (1993) J. Immunol. 151(5):2717-2724; Gazit *et al.*, (1989) J. Med. Chem. 32, 2344-2352; Gazit *et al.*, (1993) J. Med. Chem. 36:3556-3564; Kaur *et al.*, (1994) Anti-Cancer Drugs 5:213-222; King *et al.*, (1991) Biochem. J. 275:413-418; Kuo *et al.*, (1993) Cancer Letters 10 74:197-202; Levitzki, A., (1992) The FASEB J. 6:3275-3282; Lyall *et al.*, (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:14503-14509; Peterson *et al.*, (1993) The Prostate 22:335-345; Pillemer *et al.*, (1992) Int. J. Cancer 50:80-85; Posner *et al.*, (1993) Molecular Pharmacology 45:673-683; Rendu *et al.*, (1992) Biol. Pharmacology 44(5):881-888; Sauro and Thomas, (1993) Life Sciences 53:371-376; Sauro and Thomas, (1993) J. 15 Pharm. and Experimental Therapeutics 267(3):119-1125; Wolbring *et al.*, (1994) J. Biol. Chem. 269(36):22470-22472; and Yoneda *et al.*, (1991) Cancer Research 51:4430-4435; all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety, including any drawings.

Other compounds that could be used as modulators include oxindolinones 20 such as those described in U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/702,232 filed August 23, 1996, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, including any drawings.

25

RECOMBINANT DNA TECHNOLOGY:

DNA Constructs Comprising a Phosphatase Nucleic Acid Molecule and Cells Containing These Constructs.

the above-described nucleic acid molecules. In addition, the present invention relates to a recombinant DNA molecule comprising a vector and an above-described nucleic acid molecule. The present invention also relates to a nucleic acid molecule comprising a transcriptional region functional in a cell, a sequence complementary
5 to an RNA sequence encoding an amino acid sequence corresponding to the above-described polypeptide, and a transcriptional termination region functional in said cell. The above-described molecules may be isolated and/or purified DNA molecules.

The present invention also relates to a cell or organism that contains an
10 above-described nucleic acid molecule and thereby is capable of expressing a polypeptide. The polypeptide may be purified from cells which have been altered to express the polypeptide. A cell is said to be "altered to express a desired polypeptide" when the cell, through genetic manipulation, is made to produce a protein which it normally does not produce or which the cell normally produces at
15 lower levels. One skilled in the art can readily adapt procedures for introducing and expressing either genomic, cDNA, or synthetic sequences into either eukaryotic or prokaryotic cells.

A nucleic acid molecule, such as DNA, is said to be "capable of expressing" a polypeptide if it contains nucleotide sequences which contain transcriptional and
20 translational regulatory information and such sequences are "operably linked" to nucleotide sequences which encode the polypeptide. An operable linkage is a linkage in which the regulatory DNA sequences and the DNA sequence sought to be expressed are connected in such a way as to permit gene sequence expression. The precise nature of the regulatory regions needed for gene sequence expression may
25 vary from organism to organism, but shall in general include a promoter region which, in prokaryotes, contains both the promoter (which directs the initiation of RNA transcription) as well as the DNA sequences which, when transcribed into RNA, will signal synthesis initiation. Such regions will normally include those 5'-non-coding sequences involved with initiation of transcription and translation, such
30 as the TATA box, capping sequence, CAAT sequence, and the like.

If desired, the non-coding region 3' to the sequence encoding a phosphatase of the invention may be obtained by the above-described methods. This region may be retained for its transcriptional termination regulatory sequences, such as termination and polyadenylation. Thus, by retaining the 3'-region naturally
5 contiguous to the DNA sequence encoding a phosphatase of the invention, the transcriptional termination signals may be provided. Where the transcriptional termination signals are not satisfactorily functional in the expression host cell, then a 3' region functional in the host cell may be substituted.

Two DNA sequences (such as a promoter region sequence and a sequence
10 encoding a phosphatase of the invention) are said to be operably linked if the nature of the linkage between the two DNA sequences does not (1) result in the introduction of a frame-shift mutation, (2) interfere with the ability of the promoter region sequence to direct the transcription of a gene sequence encoding a phosphatase of the invention, or (3) interfere with the ability of the gene sequence of
15 a phosphatase of the invention to be transcribed by the promoter region sequence. Thus, a promoter region would be operably linked to a DNA sequence if the promoter were capable of effecting transcription of that DNA sequence. Thus, to express a gene encoding a phosphatase of the invention, transcriptional and translational signals recognized by an appropriate host are necessary.

20 The present invention encompasses the expression of a gene encoding a phosphatase of the invention (or a functional derivative thereof) in either prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells. Prokaryotic hosts are, generally, very efficient and convenient for the production of recombinant proteins and are, therefore, one type of preferred expression system for phosphatases of the invention. Prokaryotes most frequently
25 are represented by various strains of *E. coli*. However, other microbial strains may also be used, including other bacterial strains.

In prokaryotic systems, plasmid vectors that contain replication sites and control sequences derived from a species compatible with the host may be used.

like; and suitable virus vectors may include pMAM-neo, pKRC and the like.

Preferably, the selected vector of the present invention has the capacity to replicate in the selected host cell.

Recognized prokaryotic hosts include bacteria such as *E. coli*, *Bacillus*,
5 *Streptomyces*, *Pseudomonas*, *Salmonella*, *Serratia*, and the like. However, under such conditions, the polypeptide will not be glycosylated. The prokaryotic host must be compatible with the replicon and control sequences in the expression plasmid.

To express a phosphatase of the invention (or a functional derivative thereof)
10 in a prokaryotic cell, it is necessary to operably link the sequence encoding the phosphatase of the invention to a functional prokaryotic promoter. Such promoters may be either constitutive or, more preferably, regulatable (*i.e.*, inducible or derepressible). Examples of constitutive promoters include the *int* promoter of bacteriophage λ , the *bla* promoter of the β -lactamase gene sequence of pBR322, and
15 the *cat* promoter of the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene sequence of pPR325, and the like. Examples of inducible prokaryotic promoters include the major right and left promoters of bacteriophage λ (P_L and P_R), the *trp*, *recA*, *lacZ*, *lacI*, and *gal* promoters of *E. coli*, the α -amylase (Ulmanen *et al.*, J. Bacteriol. 162:176-182, 1985) and the ζ -28-specific promoters of *B. subtilis* (Gilman *et al.*,
20 Gene Sequence 32:11-20, 1984), the promoters of the bacteriophages of *Bacillus* (Gryczan, In: The Molecular Biology of the Bacilli, Academic Press, Inc., NY, 1982), and *Streptomyces* promoters (Ward *et al.*, Mol. Gen. Genet. 203:468-478, 1986). Prokaryotic promoters are reviewed by Glick (Ind. Microbiol. 1:277-282, 1987), Cenatiempo (Biochimie 68:505-516, 1986), and Gottesman (Ann. Rev.
25 Genet. 18:415-442, 1984).

Proper expression in a prokaryotic cell also requires the presence of a ribosome-binding site upstream of the gene sequence-encoding sequence. Such ribosome-binding sites are disclosed, for example, by Gold *et al.* (Ann. Rev. Microbiol. 35:365-404, 1981). The selection of control sequences, expression
30 vectors, transformation methods, and the like, are dependent on the type of host cell

used to express the gene. As used herein, "cell", "cell line", and "cell culture" may be used interchangeably and all such designations include progeny. Thus, the words "transformants" or "transformed cells" include the primary subject cell and cultures derived therefrom, without regard to the number of transfers. It is also understood
5 that all progeny may not be precisely identical in DNA content, due to deliberate or inadvertent mutations. However, as defined, mutant progeny have the same functionality as that of the originally transformed cell.

Host cells which may be used in the expression systems of the present invention are not strictly limited, provided that they are suitable for use in the
10 expression of the phosphatase polypeptide of interest. Suitable hosts may often include eukaryotic cells. Preferred eukaryotic hosts include, for example, yeast, fungi, insect cells, mammalian cells either *in vivo*, or in tissue culture. Mammalian cells which may be useful as hosts include HeLa cells, cells of fibroblast origin such as VERO or CHO-K1, or cells of lymphoid origin and their derivatives. Preferred
15 mammalian host cells include SP2/0 and J558L, as well as neuroblastoma cell lines such as IMR 332, which may provide better capacities for correct post-translational processing.

In addition, plant cells are also available as hosts, and control sequences compatible with plant cells are available, such as the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S
20 and 19S, and nopaline synthase promoter and polyadenylation signal sequences. Another preferred host is an insect cell, for example the *Drosophila* larvae. Using insect cells as hosts, the *Drosophila* alcohol dehydrogenase promoter can be used (Rubin, *Science* 240:1453-1459, 1988). Alternatively, baculovirus vectors can be engineered to express large amounts of phosphatases of the invention in insect cells
25 (Jasny, *Science* 238:1653, 1987; Miller *et al.*, In: Genetic Engineering, Vol. 8, Plenum, Setlow *et al.*, eds., pp. 277-297, 1986).

Any of a series of yeast expression systems can be utilized which incorporate promoter and termination elements from the actively expressed sequences coding for

efficient transcriptional control signals. Yeast provides substantial advantages in that it can also carry out post-translational modifications. A number of recombinant DNA strategies exist utilizing strong promoter sequences and high copy number plasmids which can be utilized for production of the desired proteins in yeast. Yeast
5 recognizes leader sequences on cloned mammalian genes and secretes peptides bearing leader sequences (*i.e.*, pre-peptides). Several possible vector systems are available for the expression of phosphatases of the invention in a mammalian host.

A wide variety of transcriptional and translational regulatory sequences may be employed, depending upon the nature of the host. The transcriptional and
10 translational regulatory signals may be derived from viral sources, such as adenovirus, bovine papilloma virus, cytomegalovirus, simian virus, or the like, where the regulatory signals are associated with a particular gene sequence which has a high level of expression. Alternatively, promoters from mammalian expression products, such as actin, collagen, myosin, and the like, may be employed.
15 Transcriptional initiation regulatory signals may be selected which allow for repression or activation, so that expression of the gene sequences can be modulated. Of interest are regulatory signals which are temperature-sensitive so that by varying the temperature, expression can be repressed or initiated, or are subject to chemical (such as metabolite) regulation.

20 Expression of phosphatases of the invention in eukaryotic hosts requires the use of eukaryotic regulatory regions. Such regions will, in general, include a promoter region sufficient to direct the initiation of RNA synthesis. Preferred eukaryotic promoters include, for example, the promoter of the mouse metallothionein I gene sequence (Hamer *et al.*, J. Mol. Appl. Gen. 1:273-288, 1982);
25 the TK promoter of Herpes virus (McKnight, *Cell* 31:355-365, 1982); the SV40 early promoter (Benoist *et al.*, *Nature* (London) 290:304-31, 1981); and the yeast gal4 gene sequence promoter (Johnston *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA) 79:6971-6975, 1982; Silver *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA) 81:5951-5955, 1984).

Translation of eukaryotic mRNA is initiated at the codon which encodes the first methionine. For this reason, it is preferable to ensure that the linkage between a eukaryotic promoter and a DNA sequence which encodes a phosphatase of the invention (or a functional derivative thereof) does not contain any intervening
5 codons which are capable of encoding a methionine (*i.e.*, AUG). The presence of such codons results either in the formation of a fusion protein (if the AUG codon is in the same reading frame as the phosphatase of the invention coding sequence) or a frame-shift mutation (if the AUG codon is not in the same reading frame as the phosphatase of the invention coding sequence).

10 A nucleic acid molecule encoding a phosphatase of the invention and an operably linked promoter may be introduced into a recipient prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell either as a nonreplicating DNA or RNA molecule, which may either be a linear molecule or, more preferably, a closed covalent circular molecule. Since such molecules are incapable of autonomous replication, the expression of the gene
15 may occur through the transient expression of the introduced sequence. Alternatively, permanent expression may occur through the integration of the introduced DNA sequence into the host chromosome.

A vector may be employed which is capable of integrating the desired gene sequences into the host cell chromosome. Cells which have stably integrated the
20 introduced DNA into their chromosomes can be selected by also introducing one or more markers which allow for selection of host cells which contain the expression vector. The marker may provide for prototrophy to an auxotrophic host, biocide resistance, *e.g.*, antibiotics, or heavy metals, such as copper, or the like. The selectable marker gene sequence can either be directly linked to the DNA gene
25 sequences to be expressed, or introduced into the same cell by co-transfection. Additional elements may also be needed for optimal synthesis of mRNA. These elements may include splice signals, as well as transcription promoters, enhancers, and termination signals. cDNA expression vectors incorporating such elements

The introduced nucleic acid molecule can be incorporated into a plasmid or viral vector capable of autonomous replication in the recipient host. Any of a wide variety of vectors may be employed for this purpose. Factors of importance in selecting a particular plasmid or viral vector include: the ease with which recipient
5 cells that contain the vector may be recognized and selected from those recipient cells which do not contain the vector; the number of copies of the vector which are desired in a particular host; and whether it is desirable to be able to "shuttle" the vector between host cells of different species.

Preferred prokaryotic vectors include plasmids such as those capable of
10 replication in *E. coli* (such as, for example, pBR322, ColEI, pSC101, pACYC 184, π VX; "Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual", 1989, *supra*). Bacillus plasmids include pC194, pC221, pT127, and the like (Gryczan, In: The Molecular Biology of the Bacilli, Academic Press, NY, pp. 307-329, 1982). Suitable *Streptomyces* plasmids include pIJ101 (Kendall *et al.*, J. Bacteriol. 169:4177-4183, 1987), and
15 streptomyces bacteriophages such as ϕ C31 (Chater *et al.*, In: Sixth International Symposium on Actinomycetales Biology, Akademiai Kiado, Budapest, Hungary, pp. 45-54, 1986). *Pseudomonas* plasmids are reviewed by John *et al.* (Rev. Infect. Dis. 8:693-704, 1986), and Izaki (Jpn. J. Bacteriol. 33:729-742, 1978).

Preferred eukaryotic plasmids include, for example, BPV, vaccinia, SV40, 2-
20 micron circle, and the like, or their derivatives. Such plasmids are well known in the art (Botstein *et al.*, Miami Wntr. Symp. 19:265-274, 1982; Broach, In: "The Molecular Biology of the Yeast *Saccharomyces*: Life Cycle and Inheritance", Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, p. 445-470, 1981; Broach, *Cell* 28:203-204, 1982; Bollon *et al.*, J. Clin. Hematol. Oncol. 10:39-48, 1980; Maniatis,
25 In: Cell Biology: A Comprehensive Treatise, Vol. 3. Gene Sequence Expression, Academic Press, NY, pp. 563-608, 1980).

Once the vector or nucleic acid molecule containing the construct(s) has been prepared for expression, the DNA construct(s) may be introduced into an appropriate host cell by any of a variety of suitable means, *i.e.*, transformation,
30 transfection, conjugation, protoplast fusion, electroporation, particle gun technology,

calcium phosphate-precipitation, direct microinjection, and the like. After the introduction of the vector, recipient cells are grown in a selective medium, which selects for the growth of vector-containing cells. Expression of the cloned gene(s) results in the production of a phosphatase of the invention, or fragments thereof.

- 5 This can take place in the transformed cells as such, or following the induction of these cells to differentiate (for example, by administration of bromodeoxyuracil to neuroblastoma cells or the like). A variety of incubation conditions can be used to form the peptide of the present invention. The most preferred conditions are those which mimic physiological conditions.

10

Transgenic Animals:

- A variety of methods are available for the production of transgenic animals associated with this invention. DNA can be injected into the pronucleus of a
15 fertilized egg before fusion of the male and female pronuclei, or injected into the nucleus of an embryonic cell (*e.g.*, the nucleus of a two-cell embryo) following the initiation of cell division (Brinster *et al.*, *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA* 82:4438-4442, 1985). Embryos can be infected with viruses, especially retroviruses, modified to carry inorganic-ion receptor nucleotide sequences of the invention.

- 20 Pluripotent stem cells derived from the inner cell mass of the embryo and stabilized in culture can be manipulated in culture to incorporate nucleotide sequences of the invention. A transgenic animal can be produced from such cells through implantation into a blastocyst that is implanted into a foster mother and allowed to come to term. Animals suitable for transgenic experiments can be
25 obtained from standard commercial sources such as Charles River (Wilmington, MA), Taconic (Germantown, NY), Harlan Sprague Dawley (Indianapolis, IN), etc.

The procedures for manipulation of the rodent embryo and for microinjection

Other procedures for introduction of DNA into tissues of animals are described in U.S. Patent No. 4,945,050 (Sanford *et al.*, July 30, 1990).

By way of example only, to prepare a transgenic mouse, female mice are induced to superovulate. Females are placed with males, and the mated females are
5 sacrificed by CO₂ asphyxiation or cervical dislocation and embryos are recovered from excised oviducts. Surrounding cumulus cells are removed. Pronuclear embryos are then washed and stored until the time of injection. Randomly cycling adult female mice are paired with vasectomized males. Recipient females are mated at the same time as donor females. Embryos then are transferred surgically. The
10 procedure for generating transgenic rats is similar to that of mice (Hammer *et al.*, *Cell* 63:1099-1112, 1990).

Methods for the culturing of embryonic stem (ES) cells and the subsequent production of transgenic animals by the introduction of DNA into ES cells using methods such as electroporation, calcium phosphate/DNA precipitation and direct
15 injection also are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art (Teratocarcinomas and Embryonic Stem Cells, A Practical Approach, E.J. Robertson, ed., IRL Press, 1987).

In cases involving random gene integration, a clone containing the sequence(s) of the invention is co-transfected with a gene encoding resistance.
20 Alternatively, the gene encoding neomycin resistance is physically linked to the sequence(s) of the invention. Transfection and isolation of desired clones are carried out by any one of several methods well known to those of ordinary skill in the art (E.J. Robertson, *supra*).

DNA molecules introduced into ES cells can also be integrated into the
25 chromosome through the process of homologous recombination (Capecchi, *Science* 244:1288-1292, 1989). Methods for positive selection of the recombination event (*i.e.*, neo resistance) and dual positive-negative selection (*i.e.*, neo resistance and gancyclovir resistance) and the subsequent identification of the desired clones by

PCR have been described by Capecchi, *supra* and Joyner *et al.* (*Nature* 338:153-156, 1989), the teachings of which are incorporated herein in their entirety including any drawings. The final phase of the procedure is to inject targeted ES cells into blastocysts and to transfer the blastocysts into pseudopregnant females. The
5 resulting chimeric animals are bred and the offspring are analyzed by Southern blotting to identify individuals that carry the transgene. Procedures for the production of non-rodent mammals and other animals have been discussed by others (Houdebine and Chourrout, *supra*; Pursel *et al.*, *Science* 244:1281-1288, 1989; and Simms *et al.*, *Bio/Technology* 6:179-183, 1988).

10 Thus, the invention provides transgenic, nonhuman mammals containing a transgene encoding a kinase of the invention or a gene affecting the expression of the kinase. Such transgenic nonhuman mammals are particularly useful as an *in vivo* test system for studying the effects of introduction of a kinase, or regulating the expression of a kinase (*i.e.*, through the introduction of additional genes, antisense
15 nucleic acids, or ribozymes).

A "transgenic animal" is an animal having cells that contain DNA which has been artificially inserted into a cell, which DNA becomes part of the genome of the animal which develops from that cell. Preferred transgenic animals are primates, mice, rats, cows, pigs, horses, goats, sheep, dogs and cats. The transgenic DNA may
20 encode human kinases. Native expression in an animal may be reduced by providing an amount of antisense RNA or DNA effective to reduce expression of the receptor.

Gene Therapy

Phosphatases or their genetic sequences will also be useful in gene therapy
25 (reviewed in Miller, *Nature* 357:455-460, 1992). Miller states that advances have resulted in practical approaches to human gene therapy that have demonstrated positive initial results. The basic science of gene therapy is described in Mulligan (*Science* 260:926-931, 1993).

large numbers into patients. In another preferred embodiment, a DNA segment containing a promoter of choice (for example a strong promoter) is transferred into cells containing an endogenous gene encoding phosphatases of the invention in such a manner that the promoter segment enhances expression of the endogenous
5 phosphatase gene (for example, the promoter segment is transferred to the cell such that it becomes directly linked to the endogenous phosphatase gene).

The gene therapy may involve the use of an adenovirus containing phosphatase cDNA targeted to a tumor, systemic phosphatase increase by implantation of engineered cells, injection with phosphatase-encoding virus, or
10 injection of naked phosphatase DNA into appropriate tissues.

Target cell populations may be modified by introducing altered forms of one or more components of the protein complexes in order to modulate the activity of such complexes. For example, by reducing or inhibiting a complex component activity within target cells, an abnormal signal transduction event(s) leading to a
15 condition may be decreased, inhibited, or reversed. Deletion or missense mutants of a component, that retain the ability to interact with other components of the protein complexes but cannot function in signal transduction, may be used to inhibit an abnormal, deleterious signal transduction event.

Expression vectors derived from viruses such as retroviruses, vaccinia virus, adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, herpes viruses, several RNA viruses, or bovine papilloma virus, may be used for delivery of nucleotide sequences (*e.g.*, cDNA) encoding recombinant phosphatase of the invention protein into the targeted cell population (*e.g.*, tumor cells). Methods which are well known to those skilled in the art can be used to construct recombinant viral vectors containing coding sequences
20 (Maniatis *et al.*, Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, N.Y., 1989; Ausubel *et al.*, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Greene Publishing Associates and Wiley Interscience, N.Y., 1989). Alternatively, recombinant nucleic acid molecules encoding protein sequences can be used as naked DNA or in a reconstituted system *e.g.*, liposomes or other lipid systems for
25 delivery to target cells (*e.g.*, Felgner *et al.*, *Nature* 337:387-8, 1989). Several other
30

methods for the direct transfer of plasmid DNA into cells exist for use in human gene therapy and involve targeting the DNA to receptors on cells by complexing the plasmid DNA to proteins (Miller, *supra*).

In its simplest form, gene transfer can be performed by simply injecting
5 minute amounts of DNA into the nucleus of a cell, through a process of
microinjection (Capecchi, *Cell* 22:479-88, 1980). Once recombinant genes are
introduced into a cell, they can be recognized by the cell's normal mechanisms for
transcription and translation, and a gene product will be expressed. Other methods
have also been attempted for introducing DNA into larger numbers of cells. These
10 methods include: transfection, wherein DNA is precipitated with calcium phosphate
and taken into cells by pinocytosis (Chen *et al.*, *Mol. Cell Biol.* 7:2745-52, 1987);
electroporation, wherein cells are exposed to large voltage pulses to introduce holes
into the membrane (Chu *et al.*, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 15:1311-26, 1987);
lipofection/liposome fusion, wherein DNA is packaged into lipophilic vesicles
15 which fuse with a target cell (Felgner *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.*
84:7413-7417, 1987); and particle bombardment using DNA bound to small
projectiles (Yang *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 87:9568-9572, 1990). Another
method for introducing DNA into cells is to couple the DNA to chemically modified
proteins.

20 It has also been shown that adenovirus proteins are capable of destabilizing
endosomes and enhancing the uptake of DNA into cells. The admixture of
adenovirus to solutions containing DNA complexes, or the binding of DNA to
polylysine covalently attached to adenovirus using protein crosslinking agents
substantially improves the uptake and expression of the recombinant gene (Curiel *et*
25 *al.*, *Am. J. Respir. Cell. Mol. Biol.*, 6:247-52, 1992).

As used herein "gene transfer" means the process of introducing a foreign
nucleic acid molecule into a cell. Gene transfer is commonly performed to enable
the expression of a particular product encoded by the gene. The product may

into animals. Generally gene transfer involves the process of nucleic acid contact with a target cell by non-specific or receptor mediated interactions, uptake of nucleic acid into the cell through the membrane or by endocytosis, and release of nucleic acid into the cytoplasm from the plasma membrane or endosome. Expression may
5 require, in addition, movement of the nucleic acid into the nucleus of the cell and binding to appropriate nuclear factors for transcription.

As used herein "gene therapy" is a form of gene transfer and is included within the definition of gene transfer as used herein and specifically refers to gene transfer to express a therapeutic product from a cell *in vivo* or *in vitro*. Gene transfer
10 can be performed *ex vivo* on cells which are then transplanted into a patient, or can be performed by direct administration of the nucleic acid or nucleic acid-protein complex into the patient.

In another preferred embodiment, a vector having nucleic acid sequences encoding a phosphatase polypeptide is provided in which the nucleic acid sequence
15 is expressed only in specific tissue. Methods of achieving tissue-specific gene expression are set forth in International Publication No. WO 93/09236, filed November 3, 1992 and published May 13, 1993.

In all of the preceding vectors set forth above, a further aspect of the invention is that the nucleic acid sequence contained in the vector may include
20 additions, deletions or modifications to some or all of the sequence of the nucleic acid, as defined above.

In another preferred embodiment, a method of gene replacement is set forth. "Gene replacement" as used herein means supplying a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of being expressed *in vivo* in an animal and thereby providing or
25 augmenting the function of an endogenous gene which is missing or defective in the animal.

PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS AND ROUTES OF ADMINISTRATION

30 The compounds described herein can be administered to a human patient *per se*, or in pharmaceutical compositions where it is mixed with other active

ingredients, as in combination therapy, or suitable carriers or excipient(s).
Techniques for formulation and administration of the compounds of the instant
application may be found in "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences," Mack
Publishing Co., Easton, PA, latest edition.

5

Routes Of Administration:

Suitable routes of administration may, for example, include oral, rectal,
transmucosal, or intestinal administration; parenteral delivery, including
10 intramuscular, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramedullary injections, as well as
intrathecal, direct intraventricular, intraperitoneal, intranasal, or intraocular
injections.

Alternately, one may administer the compound in a local rather than
systemic manner, for example, via injection of the compound directly into a solid
15 tumor, often in a depot or sustained release formulation.

Furthermore, one may administer the drug in a targeted drug delivery system,
for example, in a liposome coated with tumor-specific antibody. The liposomes will
be targeted to and taken up selectively by the tumor.

20 **Composition/Formulation:**

The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention may be
manufactured in a manner that is itself known, *e.g.*, by means of conventional
mixing, dissolving, granulating, dragee-making, levigating, emulsifying,
25 encapsulating, entrapping or lyophilizing processes.

Pharmaceutical compositions for use in accordance with the present
invention thus may be formulated in conventional manner using one or more
physiologically acceptable carriers comprising excipients and auxiliaries which
facilitate processing of the active compounds into preparations which can be used

For injection, the agents of the invention may be formulated in aqueous solutions, preferably in physiologically compatible buffers such as Hanks's solution, Ringer's solution, or physiological saline buffer. For transmucosal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation.

5 Such penetrants are generally known in the art.

For oral administration, the compounds can be formulated readily by combining the active compounds with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers well known in the art. Such carriers enable the compounds of the invention to be formulated as tablets, pills, dragees, capsules, liquids, gels, syrups, slurries, 10 suspensions and the like, for oral ingestion by a patient to be treated. Suitable carriers include excipients such as, fillers such as sugars, including lactose, sucrose, mannitol, or sorbitol; cellulose preparations such as, for example, maize starch, wheat starch, rice starch, potato starch, gelatin, gum tragacanth, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl- cellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, and/or 15 polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP). If desired, disintegrating agents may be added, such as the cross-linked polyvinyl pyrrolidone, agar, or alginic acid or a salt thereof such as sodium alginate.

Dragee cores are provided with suitable coatings. For this purpose, concentrated sugar solutions may be used, which may optionally contain gum arabic, 20 talc, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, carbopol gel, polyethylene glycol, and/or titanium dioxide, lacquer solutions, and suitable organic solvents or solvent mixtures. Dyestuffs or pigments may be added to the tablets or dragee coatings for identification or to characterize different combinations of active compound doses.

Pharmaceutical preparations which can be used orally include push-fit 25 capsules made of gelatin, as well as soft, sealed capsules made of gelatin and a plasticizer, such as glycerol or sorbitol. The push-fit capsules can contain the active ingredients in admixture with filler such as lactose, binders such as starches, and/or lubricants such as talc or magnesium stearate and, optionally, stabilizers. In soft capsules, the active compounds may be dissolved or suspended in suitable liquids, 30 such as fatty oils, liquid paraffin, or liquid polyethylene glycols. In addition,

stabilizers may be added. All formulations for oral administration should be in dosages suitable for such administration.

For buccal administration, the compositions may take the form of tablets or lozenges formulated in conventional manner.

- 5 For administration by inhalation, the compounds for use according to the present invention are conveniently delivered in the form of an aerosol spray presentation from pressurized packs or a nebuliser, with the use of a suitable propellant, *e.g.*, dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorofluoromethane, dichlorotetrafluoroethane, carbon dioxide or other suitable gas. In the case of a
- 10 pressurized aerosol the dosage unit may be determined by providing a valve to deliver a metered amount. Capsules and cartridges of *e.g.* gelatin for use in an inhaler or insufflator may be formulated containing a powder mix of the compound and a suitable powder base such as lactose or starch.

- The compounds may be formulated for parenteral administration by
- 15 injection, *e.g.*, by bolus injection or continuous infusion. Formulations for injection may be presented in unit dosage form, *e.g.*, in ampoules or in multi-dose containers, with an added preservative. The compositions may take such forms as suspensions, solutions or emulsions in oily or aqueous vehicles, and may contain formulatory agents such as suspending, stabilizing and/or dispersing agents.

- 20 Pharmaceutical formulations for parenteral administration include aqueous solutions of the active compounds in water-soluble form. Additionally, suspensions of the active compounds may be prepared as appropriate oily injection suspensions. Suitable lipophilic solvents or vehicles include fatty oils such as sesame oil, or synthetic fatty acid esters, such as ethyl oleate or triglycerides, or liposomes.
- 25 Aqueous injection suspensions may contain substances which increase the viscosity of the suspension, such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sorbitol, or dextran. Optionally, the suspension may also contain suitable stabilizers or agents which increase the solubility of the compounds to allow for the preparation of highly

Alternatively, the active ingredient may be in powder form for constitution with a suitable vehicle, *e.g.*, sterile pyrogen-free water, before use.

The compounds may also be formulated in rectal compositions such as suppositories or retention enemas, *e.g.*, containing conventional suppository bases
5 such as cocoa butter or other glycerides

In addition to the formulations described previously, the compounds may also be formulated as a depot preparation. Such long acting formulations may be administered by implantation (for example subcutaneously or intramuscularly) or by intramuscular injection. Thus, for example, the compounds may be formulated with
10 suitable polymeric or hydrophobic materials (for example as an emulsion in an acceptable oil) or ion exchange resins, or as sparingly soluble derivatives, for example, as a sparingly soluble salt.

A pharmaceutical carrier for the hydrophobic compounds of the invention is a cosolvent system comprising benzyl alcohol, a nonpolar surfactant, a water-
15 miscible organic polymer, and an aqueous phase. The cosolvent system may be the VPD co-solvent system. VPD is a solution of 3% w/v benzyl alcohol, 8% w/v of the nonpolar surfactant polysorbate 80, and 65% w/v polyethylene glycol 300, made up to volume in absolute ethanol. The VPD co-solvent system (VPD:D5W) consists of VPD diluted 1:1 with a 5% dextrose in water solution. This co-solvent system
20 dissolves hydrophobic compounds well, and itself produces low toxicity upon systemic administration. Naturally, the proportions of a co-solvent system may be varied considerably without destroying its solubility and toxicity characteristics. Furthermore, the identity of the co-solvent components may be varied: for example, other low-toxicity nonpolar surfactants may be used instead of polysorbate 80; the
25 fraction size of polyethylene glycol may be varied; other biocompatible polymers may replace polyethylene glycol, *e.g.* polyvinyl pyrrolidone; and other sugars or polysaccharides may substitute for dextrose.

Alternatively, other delivery systems for hydrophobic pharmaceutical compounds may be employed. Liposomes and emulsions are well known examples
30 of delivery vehicles or carriers for hydrophobic drugs. Certain organic solvents such

as dimethylsulfoxide also may be employed, although usually at the cost of greater toxicity. Additionally, the compounds may be delivered using a sustained-release system, such as semipermeable matrices of solid hydrophobic polymers containing the therapeutic agent. Various sustained-release materials have been established and
5 are well known by those skilled in the art. Sustained-release capsules may, depending on their chemical nature, release the compounds for a few weeks up to over 100 days. Depending on the chemical nature and the biological stability of the therapeutic reagent, additional strategies for protein stabilization may be employed.

The pharmaceutical compositions also may comprise suitable solid or gel
10 phase carriers or excipients. Examples of such carriers or excipients include but are not limited to calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate, various sugars, starches, cellulose derivatives, gelatin, and polymers such as polyethylene glycols.

Many of the tyrosine or serine/threonine phosphatase modulating compounds of the invention may be provided as salts with pharmaceutically compatible
15 counterions. Pharmaceutically compatible salts may be formed with many acids, including but not limited to hydrochloric, sulfuric, acetic, lactic, tartaric, malic, succinic, etc. Salts tend to be more soluble in aqueous or other protonic solvents that are the corresponding free base forms.

20 **Suitable Dosage Regimens:**

Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for use in the present invention include compositions where the active ingredients are contained in an amount effective to achieve its intended purpose. More specifically, a therapeutically effective amount
25 means an amount of compound effective to prevent, alleviate or ameliorate symptoms of disease or prolong the survival of the subject being treated. Determination of a therapeutically effective amount is well within the capability of those skilled in the art, especially in light of the detailed disclosure provided herein.

publication number WO 96/22976, published August 1 1996, both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety, including any drawings, figures or tables. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that such descriptions are applicable to the present invention and can be easily adapted to it.

5 The proper dosage depends on various factors such as the type of disease being treated, the particular composition being used and the size and physiological condition of the patient. Therapeutically effective doses for the compounds described herein can be estimated initially from cell culture and animal models. For example, a dose can be formulated in animal models to achieve a circulating
10 concentration range that initially takes into account the IC_{50} as determined in cell culture assays. The animal model data can be used to more accurately determine useful doses in humans.

 For any compound used in the methods of the invention, the therapeutically effective dose can be estimated initially from cell culture assays. For example, a
15 dose can be formulated in animal models to achieve a circulating concentration range that includes the IC_{50} as determined in cell culture (*i.e.*, the concentration of the test compound which achieves a half-maximal inhibition of the tyrosine or serine/threonine phosphatase activity). Such information can be used to more accurately determine useful doses in humans.

20 Toxicity and therapeutic efficacy of the compounds described herein can be determined by standard pharmaceutical procedures in cell cultures or experimental animals, *e.g.*, for determining the LD_{50} (the dose lethal to 50% of the population) and the ED_{50} (the dose therapeutically effective in 50% of the population). The dose ratio between toxic and therapeutic effects is the therapeutic index and it can be
25 expressed as the ratio between LD_{50} and ED_{50} . Compounds which exhibit high therapeutic indices are preferred. The data obtained from these cell culture assays and animal studies can be used in formulating a range of dosage for use in human. The dosage of such compounds lies preferably within a range of circulating concentrations that include the ED_{50} with little or no toxicity. The dosage may vary
30 within this range depending upon the dosage form employed and the route of

administration utilized. The exact formulation, route of administration and dosage can be chosen by the individual physician in view of the patient's condition. (See e.g., Fingl *et al.*, 1975, in "The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics", Ch. 1 p.1).

Toxicity studies can also be carried out by measuring the blood cell
5 composition. For example, toxicity studies can be carried out in a suitable animal model as follows: 1) the compound is administered to mice (an untreated control mouse should also be used); 2) blood samples are periodically obtained via the tail vein from one mouse in each treatment group; and 3) the samples are analyzed for red and white blood cell counts, blood cell composition and the percent of lympho-
10 cytes versus polymorphonuclear cells. A comparison of results for each dosing regime with the controls indicates if toxicity is present.

At the termination of each toxicity study, further studies can be carried out by sacrificing the animals (preferably, in accordance with the American Veterinary Medical Association guidelines Report of the American Veterinary Medical Assoc.
15 Panel on Euthanasia:229-249, 1993). Representative animals from each treatment group can then be examined by gross necropsy for immediate evidence of metastasis, unusual illness or toxicity. Gross abnormalities in tissue are noted and tissues are examined histologically. Compounds causing a reduction in body weight or blood components are less preferred, as are compounds having an adverse effect
20 on major organs. In general, the greater the adverse effect the less preferred the compound.

For the treatment of cancers the expected daily dose of a hydrophobic pharmaceutical agent is between 1 to 500 mg/day, preferably 1 to 250 mg/day, and most preferably 1 to 50 mg/day. Drugs can be delivered less frequently provided
25 plasma levels of the active moiety are sufficient to maintain therapeutic effectiveness.

Plasma levels should reflect the potency of the drug. Generally, the more potent the compound the lower the plasma levels necessary to achieve effect.

drugs most appropriate to inhibit a disorder. Such measurements can be carried out. For example, HPLC analysis can be performed on the plasma of animals treated with the drug and the location of radiolabeled compounds can be determined using detection methods such as X-ray, CAT scan and MRI. Compounds that show potent
5 inhibitory activity in the screening assays, but have poor pharmacokinetic characteristics, can be optimized by altering the chemical structure and retesting. In this regard, compounds displaying good pharmacokinetic characteristics can be used as a model.

Dosage amount and interval may be adjusted individually to provide plasma
10 levels of the active moiety which are sufficient to maintain the phosphatase modulating effects, or minimal effective concentration (MEC). The MEC will vary for each compound but can be estimated from *in vitro* data; e.g., the concentration necessary to achieve 50-90% inhibition of the phosphatase using the assays described herein. Dosages necessary to achieve the MEC will depend on individual
15 characteristics and route of administration. However, HPLC assays or bioassays can be used to determine plasma concentrations.

Dosage intervals can also be determined using MEC value. Compounds should be administered using a regimen which maintains plasma levels above the MEC for 10-90% of the time, preferably between 30-90% and most preferably
20 between 50-90%.

In cases of local administration or selective uptake, the effective local concentration of the drug may not be related to plasma concentration.

The amount of composition administered will, of course, be dependent on the subject being treated, on the subject's weight, the severity of the affliction, the
25 manner of administration and the judgment of the prescribing physician.

Packaging:

The compositions may, if desired, be presented in a pack or dispenser device
30 which may contain one or more unit dosage forms containing the active ingredient. The pack may for example comprise metal or plastic foil, such as a blister pack. The

pack or dispenser device may be accompanied by instructions for administration. The pack or dispenser may also be accompanied with a notice associated with the container in form prescribed by a governmental agency regulating the manufacture, use, or sale of pharmaceuticals, which notice is reflective of approval by the agency of the form of the polynucleotide for human or veterinary administration. Such notice, for example, may be the labeling approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for prescription drugs, or the approved product insert. Compositions comprising a compound of the invention formulated in a compatible pharmaceutical carrier may also be prepared, placed in an appropriate container, and labeled for treatment of an indicated condition. Suitable conditions indicated on the label may include treatment of a tumor, inhibition of angiogenesis, treatment of fibrosis, diabetes, and the like.

FUNCTIONAL DERIVATIVES

Also provided herein are functional derivatives of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention. By "functional derivative" is meant a "chemical derivative," "fragment," or "variant," of the polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention, which terms are defined below. A functional derivative retains at least a portion of the function of the protein, for example reactivity with an antibody specific for the protein, enzymatic activity or binding activity mediated through noncatalytic domains, which permits its utility in accordance with the present invention. It is well known in the art that due to the degeneracy of the genetic code numerous different nucleic acid sequences can code for the same amino acid sequence. Equally, it is also well known in the art that conservative changes in amino acid can be made to arrive at a protein or polypeptide that retains the functionality of the original. In both cases, all permutations are intended to be covered by this disclosure.

amino acid and hence would give rise to the same protein. The nucleic acid sequence can vary substantially since, with the exception of methionine and tryptophan, the known amino acids can be coded for by more than one codon. Thus, portions or all of the genes of the invention could be synthesized to give a nucleic acid sequence significantly different from one selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12. The encoded amino acid sequence thereof would, however, be preserved.

In addition, the nucleic acid sequence may comprise a nucleotide sequence which results from the addition, deletion or substitution of at least one nucleotide to the 5'-end and/or the 3'-end of the nucleic acid formula selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12, or a derivative thereof. Any nucleotide or polynucleotide may be used in this regard, provided that its addition, deletion or substitution does not alter the amino acid sequence of selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, which is encoded by the nucleotide sequence. For example, the present invention is intended to include any nucleic acid sequence resulting from the addition of ATG as an initiation codon at the 5'-end of the inventive nucleic acid sequence or its derivative, or from the addition of TTA, TAG or TGA as a termination codon at the 3'-end of the inventive nucleotide sequence or its derivative. Moreover, the nucleic acid molecule of the present invention may, as necessary, have restriction endonuclease recognition sites added to its 5'-end and/or 3'-end.

Such functional alterations of a given nucleic acid sequence afford an opportunity to promote secretion and/or processing of heterologous proteins encoded by foreign nucleic acid sequences fused thereto. All variations of the nucleotide

sequence of the phosphatase genes of the invention and fragments thereof permitted by the genetic code are, therefore, included in this invention.

Further, it is possible to delete codons or to substitute one or more codons with codons other than degenerate codons to produce a structurally modified polypeptide, but one which has substantially the same utility or activity as the polypeptide produced by the unmodified nucleic acid molecule. As recognized in the art, the two polypeptides are functionally equivalent, as are the two nucleic acid molecules that give rise to their production, even though the differences between the nucleic acid molecules are not related to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

A "chemical derivative" of the complex contains additional chemical moieties not normally a part of the protein. Covalent modifications of the protein or peptides are included within the scope of this invention. Such modifications may be introduced into the molecule by reacting targeted amino acid residues of the peptide with an organic derivatizing agent that is capable of reacting with selected side chains or terminal residues, as described below.

Cysteinyl residues most commonly are reacted with alpha-haloacetates (and corresponding amines), such as chloroacetic acid or chloroacetamide, to give carboxymethyl or carboxyamidomethyl derivatives. Cysteinyl residues also are derivatized by reaction with bromotrifluoroacetone, chloroacetyl phosphate, N-alkylmaleimides, 3-nitro-2-pyridyl disulfide, methyl 2-pyridyl disulfide, p-chloromercuribenzoate, 2-chloromercuri-4-nitrophenol, or chloro-7-nitrobenzo-2-oxa-1,3-diazole.

Histidyl residues are derivatized by reaction with diethylprocarbonate at pH 5.5-7.0 because this agent is relatively specific for the histidyl side chain. Para-bromophenacyl bromide also is useful; the reaction is preferably performed in 0.1 M sodium cacodylate at pH 6.0.

Lysinyl and amino terminal residues are reacted with succinic or other carboxylic acid anhydrides. Derivatization with these agents has the effect of

picolinimide; pyridoxal phosphate; pyridoxal; chloroborohydride; trinitrobenzenesulfonic acid; O-methylisourea; 2,4 pentanedione; and transaminase-catalyzed reaction with glyoxylate.

Arginyl residues are modified by reaction with one or several conventional reagents, among them phenylglyoxal, 2,3-butanedione, 1,2-cyclohexanedione, and ninhydrin. Derivatization of arginine residues requires that the reaction be performed in alkaline conditions because of the high pK_a of the guanidine functional group. Furthermore, these reagents may react with the groups of lysine as well as the arginine alpha-amino group.

Tyrosyl residues are well-known targets of modification for introduction of spectral labels by reaction with aromatic diazonium compounds or tetranitromethane. Most commonly, N-acetylimidazole and tetranitromethane are used to form O-acetyl tyrosyl species and 3-nitro derivatives, respectively.

Carboxyl side groups (aspartyl or glutamyl) are selectively modified by reaction with carbodiimide ($R'-N-C-N-R'$) such as 1-cyclohexyl-3-(2-morpholinyl)(4-ethyl) carbodiimide or 1-ethyl-3-(4-azonia-4,4-dimethylpentyl) carbodiimide. Furthermore, aspartyl and glutamyl residues are converted to asparaginyl and glutaminyl residues by reaction with ammonium ions.

Glutaminyl and asparaginyl residues are frequently deamidated to the corresponding glutamyl and aspartyl residues. Alternatively, these residues are deamidated under mildly acidic conditions. Either form of these residues falls within the scope of this invention.

Derivatization with bifunctional agents is useful, for example, for cross-linking the component peptides of the protein to each other or to other proteins in a complex to a water-insoluble support matrix or to other macromolecular carriers. Commonly used cross-linking agents include, for example, 1,1-bis(diazoacetyl)-2-phenylethane, glutaraldehyde, N-hydroxysuccinimide esters, for example, esters with 4-azidosalicylic acid, homobifunctional imidoesters, including disuccinimidyl esters such as 3,3'-dithiobis(succinimidylpropionate), and bifunctional maleimides such as bis-N-maleimido-1,8-octane. Derivatizing agents such as methyl-3-[p-

azidophenyl) dithiolpropionimide yield photoactivatable intermediates that are capable of forming crosslinks in the presence of light. Alternatively, reactive water-insoluble matrices such as cyanogen bromide-activated carbohydrates and the reactive substrates described in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,969,287; 3,691,016; 4,195,128; 5 4,247,642; 4,229,537; and 4,330,440 are employed for protein immobilization.

Other modifications include hydroxylation of proline and lysine, phosphorylation of hydroxyl groups of seryl or threonyl residues, methylation of the alpha-amino groups of lysine, arginine, and histidine side chains (Creighton, T.E., *Proteins: Structure and Molecular Properties*, W.H. Freeman & Co., San Francisco, 10 pp. 79-86 (1983)), acetylation of the N-terminal amine, and, in some instances, amidation of the C-terminal carboxyl groups.

Such derivatized moieties may improve the stability, solubility, absorption, biological half-life, and the like. The moieties may alternatively eliminate or attenuate any undesirable side effect of the protein complex and the like. Moieties 15 capable of mediating such effects are disclosed, for example, in Remington's *Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 18th ed., Mack Publishing Co., Easton, PA (1990).

The term "fragment" is used to indicate a polypeptide derived from the amino acid sequence of the proteins, of the complexes having a length less than the full-length polypeptide from which it has been derived. Such a fragment may, for 20 example, be produced by proteolytic cleavage of the full-length protein. Preferably, the fragment is obtained recombinantly by appropriately modifying the DNA sequence encoding the proteins to delete one or more amino acids at one or more sites of the C-terminus, N-terminus, and/or within the native sequence. Fragments of a protein are useful for screening for substances that act to modulate signal 25 transduction, as described herein. It is understood that such fragments may retain one or more characterizing portions of the native complex. Examples of such retained characteristics include: catalytic activity; substrate specificity; interaction with other molecules in the intact cell; regulatory functions; or binding with an

Another functional derivative intended to be within the scope of the present invention is a "variant" polypeptide which either lacks one or more amino acids or contains additional or substituted amino acids relative to the native polypeptide. The variant may be derived from a naturally occurring complex component by
5 appropriately modifying the protein DNA coding sequence to add, remove, and/or to modify codons for one or more amino acids at one or more sites of the C-terminus, N-terminus, and/or within the native sequence. It is understood that such variants having added, substituted and/or additional amino acids retain one or more characterizing portions of the native protein, as described above.

10 A functional derivative of a protein with deleted, inserted and/or substituted amino acid residues may be prepared using standard techniques well-known to those of ordinary skill in the art. For example, the modified components of the functional derivatives may be produced using site-directed mutagenesis techniques (as exemplified by Adelman *et al.*, 1983, DNA 2:183) wherein nucleotides in the DNA
15 coding the sequence are modified such that a modified coding sequence is modified, and thereafter expressing this recombinant DNA in a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell, using techniques such as those described above. Alternatively, proteins with amino acid deletions, insertions and/or substitutions may be conveniently prepared by direct chemical synthesis, using methods well-known in the art. The functional
20 derivatives of the proteins typically exhibit the same qualitative biological activity as the native proteins.

The invention also provides methods for determining whether a nucleic acid sequence encodes a phosphatase, according to the invention, which contains one or more characterizing portions of the native complex. As noted, examples of such
25 retained characteristics include: catalytic activity; substrate specificity; interaction with other molecules in the intact cell; regulatory functions; or binding with an antibody specific for the native complex, or an epitope thereof. Accordingly, the invention provides an assay analyzing one or more characteristics - in particular, the presence of a catalytic domain - of a polypeptide phosphatase encoded by a given
30 nucleic acid molecule.

To this end, a suitable assay can begin by purifying and quantitating a photophase protein. The protein then can be assayed, for example, by serial dilution and incubation in a buffer (*e.g.* ABT buffer) comprising a substrate capable of undergoing hydrolysis and optionally a reducing agent capable of

5 increasing any catalytic activity of the polypeptide. Preferably, the substrate is p-nitrophenyl phosphate (pNPP) and the reducing agent is dithiothreitol (DTT), at mM concentrations of 4X and 1X, respectively. Incubation can be at room temperature from about 2 minutes to overnight, depending on activity. To stop the reaction, add NaOH, which can be about 100 μ l of 10 N NaOH. The suspension can be

10 centrifuged and the supernatant analyzed at an OD of 410 nm to determine whether to protein phosphatase exhibited catalytic properties.

TABLES
AND
DESCRIPTION THEREOF

5 Table 1 documents the name of each gene, the classification of each gene product, the positions of the open reading frames within the sequence, and the length of the corresponding peptide. From left to right the data presented is as follows: "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", "Superfamily", "Group", "Family", "NA_length", "ORF Start", "ORF End", "ORF Length", and "AA length". "Gene
10 name" refers to name given the sequence encoding the phosphatase or phosphatase-like enzyme. Each gene is represented by "SGP" designation followed by an arbitrary number. The SGP name usually represents multiple overlapping sequences built into a single contiguous sequence (a "contig"). The "ID#na" and "ID#aa" refer to the identification numbers given each nucleic acid and amino acid sequence in
15 this patent. "FL/Cat" refers to the length of the gene, with FL indicating full length, and "Cat" indicating that only the catalytic domain is presented. "Partial" in this column indicates that the sequence encodes a partial protein phosphatase catalytic domain. "Superfamily" identifies whether the gene is a dual specificity phosphatase, a protein tyrosine phosphatase or a serine threonine phosphatase. "Group" and
20 "Family" refer to the phosphatase classification defined by sequence homology and based on previously established phylogenetic (The Protein Phosphatase Factsbook, Nick Tonks, Shirish Shenolikar, Harry Charbonneau, Academic Pr, 2000). "NA_length" refers to the length in nucleotides of the corresponding nucleic acid sequence. "ORF start" refers to the beginning nucleotide of the open reading frame.
25 "ORF end" refers to the last nucleotide of the open reading frame, including the stop codon. "ORF length" refers to the length in nucleotides of the open reading frame. "AA length" refers to the length in amino acids of the peptide encoded in the corresponding nucleic acid sequence.

Table 1 - Open Reading Frames
424454 2

Line	ID#na	ID#aa	FL/Cat	Superfamily	Group	Family	NA_length	ORF Start	ORF End	ORF Length	AA_length
1	1	13	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	6374	34	3183	3150	1049
2	2	14	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	2732	538	2935	1998	665
3	3	15	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	2260	709	2205	1497	498
4	4	16	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	4361	203	3609	3402	1133
5	5	17	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	1262	240	902	663	220
6	6	18	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	1917	31	1580	1550	549
7	7	19	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	MKP	636	1	636	211	211
8	8	20	FL	Dual Phosphatase	DSP	STYX	1326	1	990	950	329
9	9	21	FL	Serine Phosphatase	STP	PP2C	1083	1	1083	1083	360
10	10	22	FL	Serine Phosphatase	STP	PP2C	1725	1	1725	1725	574
11	11	23	Cat	Tyrosine Phosphatase	RPTP	PTPd	4719	1	4719	4719	1573
12	12	24	Partial	Tyrosine Phosphatase	RPTP	PTPd	354	1	357	357	118

Table 2 lists the following features of the genes described in this application: chromosomal localization, single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), representation in dbEST, and repeat regions. From left to right the data presented is as follows: "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", "Superfamily", "Group", "Family",

5 "Chromosome", "SNPs", "dbEST_hits", & "Repeats". The contents of the first 7 columns (i.e., "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", "Superfamily", "Group", "Family") are as described above for Table 1. "Chromosome" refers to the cytogenetic localization of the gene. Information in the "SNPs" column describes the nucleic acid position and degenerate nature of candidate single nucleotide

10 polymorphisms (SNPs. "dbEST hits" lists accession numbers of entries in the public database of ESTs (dbEST, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/index.html>) that contain at least 100 bp of 100% identity to the corresponding gene. These ESTs were identified by blastn of dbEST. "Repeats" contains information about the location of short sequences, approximately 20 bp in length, that are of low

15 complexity and that are present in several distinct genes. These repeats were identified by blastn of the DNA sequence against the non-redundant nucleic acid database at NCBI (nrna). To be included in this repeat column, the sequence typically has 100% identity over its length and is present in at least 5 different genes.

Table 2 - CHR, SNPs, dbEST, Repeats
424454 2

[illegible]

Table 3 lists the extent and the boundaries of the phosphatase catalytic domains. The column headings are: "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", "Domain", "Phos_start", "Phos_end", "Profile_start", "Profile_end". The contents columns "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", are as described above for Table 1. "Phos Start", "Phos End", "Profile Start" and "Profile End" refer to data obtained using a Hidden-Markov Model to define catalytic range boundaries (<http://pfam.wustl.edu/index.html>). The boundaries of the catalytic domains within the overall protein are noted in the "Phos Start" and "Phos End" columns. Three profiles were used, one for dual specificity phosphatases (DSP) which is 173 amino acids long; one for STPs, which is 301 amino acids long; and one for PTPs, which is 264 amino acids long. (The profiles used are described in <http://pfam.wustl.edu/>). Proteins in which the profile recognizes a full length catalytic domain have a "Profile Start" of 1 and, for the three families, the following Profile Ends: 173 for DSP, 301 for STPs, and 264 for PTPs. Genes which have a partial catalytic domain will have a "Profile Start" of greater than 1 (indicating that the beginning of the phosphatase domain is missing, and/or a "Profile End" of less than 261 (indicating that the C-terminal end of the phosphatase domain is missing). Each of the sequences encompasses a complete catalytic domain, except for SGP024, which has a partial catalytic domain represents amino acids 205 to 264 of the PTP profile.

Table 3 - Phosphatase Domains
424454 2

Gene Name	ID#na	ID#aa	FL/Cat	Domain	Phos_start	Phos_end	Profile_start	Profile_end
SGP006	1	13	FL	DSP	308	446	1	173
SGP002	2	14	FL	DSP	158	297	1	173
SGP001	3	15	FL	DSP	307	441	1	173
SGP018	4	16	FL	DSP	185	330	1	173
SGP003	5	17	FL	DSP	54	199	1	173
SGP014	6	18	FL	2 DSPs (37-181 & 368-520)	37 & 368	181 & 520	1	173
SGP060	7	19	FL	DSP	61	204	1	173
SGP008	8	20	FL	DSP	98	235	1	173
SGP039	9	21	FL	Protein phosphatase 2C	91	344	1	301
SGP040	10	22	FL	Protein phosphatase 2C	209	497	1	301
SGP012	11	23	Cat	PTP	1010	1259	1	264
SGP024	12	24	Partial	PTP	3	58	205	264

Table 4 describes the results of Smith Waterman similarity searches (Matrix: Pam100; gap open/extension penalties 12/2) of the amino acid sequences against the NCBI database of non-redundant protein sequences

(<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Entrez/protein.html>). The column headings are:

- 5 "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", "Family", "Pscore", "aa_length", "aa_ID_match", "%Identity", "%Similar", "ACC#_nraa_match", "Description", "Query start", "Query end", "Target start", and "Target end". The contents of columns. "Gene Name", "ID#na", "ID#aa", "FL/Cat", and "Family" are as described above for Table 1. "Pscore" refers to the Smith Waterman probability score. This
- 10 number approximates the probability that the alignment occurred by chance. Thus, a very low number, such as 2.10E-64, indicates that there is a very significant match between the query and the database target. "aa_length" refers to the length of the protein in amino acids. "aa_ID_match" indicates the number of amino acids that were identical in the alignment. "% Identity" lists the percent of nucleotides that
- 15 were identical over the aligned region. "% Similarity" lists the percent of amino acids that were similar over the alignment. "ACC#nraa_match" lists the accession number of the most similar protein in the NCBI database of non-redundant proteins. "Description" contains the name of the most similar protein in the NCBI database of non-redundant proteins. "Query start" refers to the amino acid number in the
- 20 phosphatase ("Query") at which the alignment begins. "Query end" refers to the amino acid number in the phosphatase ("Query") at which the alignment ends. "Target start" refers to the amino acid number in the Smith Waterman hit ("Target") from NRAA at which the alignment begins. "Target end" refers to the amino acid number in the Smith Waterman hit ("Target") from NRAA at which the alignment
- 25 ends. Note that for SGP006 there three entries, and for SGP014 there are two entries. These additional rows describe different regions of alignments with different database "Targets" (see below for detailed descriptions).

Table 4
Smith Waterman
424454_2

[illegible]

Table 5 shows the results of a gene expression analysis of selected phosphatases presented in this application using a microarray of cDNAs derived from 499 tissues and cell lines. The cDNAs were spotted on nylon and probed with labeled phosphatase genes, as described in Materials and Methods below. The

5 phosphatase probes were PCR cloned from genomic exons. Data presentation from left to right is as follows: "ID": number of the sample; "Sample name"; "T/N", tumor or normal tissue; "Type", tissue of origin; "Tissue/cell line", sample is derived from tissue or from a cultured cell line; "Notes": additional information about the sample; "Treatment": chemical or physical treatment of the tissue or cell

10 line; "p53" refers to the status, mutant or wild-type, of the p53 gene in the source samples. Normalized expression values are presented for each gene referred to by its SGP and SEQ_ID# on the subsequent columns. Genes represented in Table 5 are: SGP003, SGP060, and SGP018.

Images of the blots containing the probed tissue arrays are included.

Sample name	T.N	Type	Tissue culture	Notes	Treatment	IC50	ICNA 4	IC50F0.1	ICNA 5	IC50F0.1	ICNA 7	IC50F0.1
1. 100% control	1	control	control		none	730					1,274	
2. 100% control	1	control	control		none	717			2,916			
3. 100% control	1	control	control		none	726			2,219			
4. 100% control	1	control	control		none	641						
5. 100% control	1	control	control		none	627			1,426		3,020	
6. 100% control	1	control	control		none	638			2,044		993	
7. 100% control	1	control	control		none	592					0	
8. 100% control	1	control	control		none	436					257	
9. 100% control	1	control	control		none	436			1,812		209	
10. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
11. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
12. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
13. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
14. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
15. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
16. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
17. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
18. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
19. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
20. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
21. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
22. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
23. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
24. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
25. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
26. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
27. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
28. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
29. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
30. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
31. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
32. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
33. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
34. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
35. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
36. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
37. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
38. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
39. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
40. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
41. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
42. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
43. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
44. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
45. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
46. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
47. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
48. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
49. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
50. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
51. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
52. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
53. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
54. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
55. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
56. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
57. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
58. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
59. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
60. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
61. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
62. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
63. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
64. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
65. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
66. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
67. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
68. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
69. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
70. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
71. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
72. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
73. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
74. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
75. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
76. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
77. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
78. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
79. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
80. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
81. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
82. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
83. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
84. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
85. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
86. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
87. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
88. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
89. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
90. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
91. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
92. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
93. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
94. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
95. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
96. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
97. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
98. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
99. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	
100. 100% control	1	control	control		none	392			1,114		0	

Table 5- Tissue Array
424454_2

412 (S2400-7)	T	cell	cell line	400 ng/ml rIL-24	mutant	221	0	0
301 (S2400-2)	T	cell	cell line	IL-24 stimulation	wt	215	0	0
21 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	217	313	0
400 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	215	0	0
49 (S2400-2)	T	cell	cell line	IL-24	wt	215	0	0
400 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	217	0	0
400 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	215	0	0
301 (S2400-2)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	215	403	0
141 (S2400-2)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	215	0	247
101 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	209	0	0
90 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	209	0	0
14 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	207	0	0
101 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	207	0	0
200 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	206	432	0
312 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	206	0	0
101 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	205	0	0
151 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	205	0	0
101 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	205	0	0
101 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	205	0	0
441 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	200	0	0
301 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	200	0	0
67 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	200	0	0
118 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	199	0	0
301 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	195	0	0
310 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	195	0	0
331 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	195	0	0
51 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	195	0	0
514 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	194	0	0
122 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	194	0	0
453 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	193	0	0
20 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	193	0	0
97 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	192	0	0
77 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	190	0	0
258 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	189	0	0
257 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	189	0	0
79 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	188	0	0
183 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	185	0	0
34 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	185	0	0
95 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	185	0	0
181 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	180	0	0
478 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	175	0	0
33 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	175	0	0
259 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	175	0	0
58 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	174	0	0
103 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	172	0	0
263 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	172	0	0
53 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	172	0	0
103 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	171	0	0
452 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	171	0	0
242 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	171	0	0
154 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	170	0	0
400 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	169	0	0
142 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	165	0	0
447 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	165	0	0
275 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	165	0	0
275 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	165	0	0
94 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	164	0	0
265 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	164	0	0
410 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	164	0	0
491 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	162	0	0
144 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	158	0	0
123 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	157	0	0
320 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	156	0	0
470 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	155	0	0
81 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	155	0	0
492 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	155	0	0
281 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	151	0	0
404 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	151	0	0
17 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	151	0	0
81 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	149	0	0
451 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	147	0	0
116 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	147	0	0
70 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	147	0	0
192 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	144	0	0
210 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	144	0	0
208 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	144	0	0
272 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	142	0	0
34 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	141	0	0
107 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	141	0	0
120 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	138	0	0
206 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	137	0	0
2 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	136	0	0
507 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	133	0	0
178 (S2400-1)	T	endo	endo	IL-24	wt	133	0	0

Table 5- Tissue Array
424454 2

[illegible]

Table 5- Tissue Array
424454 2

[illegible]

[illegible]

Table 5- Tissue Array
424454 2

[illegible]

Table 6. "Multiple Tissue Blot", contains results of probing a Clontech Multiple Tissue Blot with radioactively labeled probes derived from SGP002 and SGP012. The table lists the tissues on the blot and the values obtained for relative gene expression in each tissue.

Table 6 - Multiple Tissue Blot
CIP02

Tissue	ID#NA11_SGP012	ID#NA2_SGP002
whole brain	1241	11946
cerebellum left	1310	21661
substantia nigra	0	11730
heart	0	11876
esophagus	1902	11594
colon, transverse	1307	21604
kidney	44	11945
lung	121	11777
liver	61	11568
leukemia, HL-60	0	11954
fetal brain	0	177
cerebral cortex	1178	15874
cerebellum, right	1304	11520
caudate nucleus	0	14177
aorta	201	11939
stomach	0	11933
colon, ascending	1312	16311
skeletal muscle	120	10600
placenta	150	11169
pancreas	361	11511
cell, S3	0	11564
fetal heart	141	11772
frontal lobe	0	11984
corpus callosum	1310	21361
thalamus	781	11791
atrium, left	465	14101
duodenum	601	21941
rectum	0	11611
spleen	0	11881
bladder	519	11077
adrenal gland	500	119400
leukemia, K562	0	11941
fetal kidney	1201	11681
parietal lobe	491	11341
amygdala	331	11740
pituitary gland	512	11281
atrium, right	114	11381
juvenum	1159	11560
thymus	54	11491
uterus	1417	11077
thyroid gland	17	11510
leukemia, MZOL-4	0	11691
fetal liver	1152	1101
occipital lobe	114	11701
caudate nucleus	114	11281
spinal cord	561	11281
ventricle, left	0	1421
ileum	1114	11701
peripheral blood leukocyte	1415	11211
prostate	0	11761
salivary gland	111	11201
Burkitt's lymphoma, Raji	0	1197
fetal spleen	0	11411
temporal lobe	111	11011
hippocampus	105	11711
ventricle, right	111	11211
intestine	0	11211
lymph node	1117	11211
testis	10711	11311
mammary gland	1118	11211
Burkitt's lymphoma, Daudi	1118	11211
fetal thymus	797	11111
periacentral gyrus cerebral cortex	0	11111
medulla oblongata	701	11211
inter-ventricular septum	0	11111
appendix	0	11111
bone marrow	1117	11111
ovary	1117	11111
colorectal adenocarcinoma, SW620	111	11111
fetal lung	1	11111
bone	111	11111
pituitary	0	11111
apex of the heart	111	11111
colon, ascending	1101	11111
trachea	1194	11111
lung carcinoma, A549	1176	11111

EXAMPLES

The examples below are not limiting and are merely representative of various aspects and features of the present invention. The examples below demonstrate the isolation and characterization of the serine/threonine phosphatases of the invention.

EXAMPLE 1: Identification and characterization of protein phosphatase genes from genomic DNA

Materials and Methods

Novel phosphatases were identified from the Celera human genomic sequence databases, and from the public Human Genome Sequencing project (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>) using hidden Markov models (HMMRs). The genomic database entries were translated in six open reading frames and searched against the model using a Timelogic Decypher box with a Field programmable array (FPGA) accelerated version of HMMR2.1. The DNA sequences encoding the predicted protein sequences aligning to the HMMR profile were extracted from the original genomic database. The nucleic acid sequences were then clustered using the Pangea Clustering tool to eliminate repetitive entries. The putative protein phosphatase sequences were then sequentially run through a series of queries and filters to identify novel protein phosphatase sequences. Specifically, the HMMR identified sequences were searched using BLASTN and BLASTX against a nucleotide and amino acid repository containing known human protein phosphatases and all subsequent new protein phosphatase sequences as they are identified. The output was parsed into a spreadsheet to facilitate elimination of known genes by manual inspection. Two models were developed, a "complete" model and a "partial" or Smith Waterman model. The partial model was used to identify sub-catalytic phosphatase domains, whereas the complete model was used

unique. In some cases the novel genes were judged to be orthologues of previously identified rodent or vertebrate protein phosphatases.

Many of the sequences filed in the provisional patents did not contain the entire coding sequence. Extension of partial DNA sequences to encompass the full-length open-reading frame was carried out by several methods. Iterative blastn
5 searching of the cDNA databases listed in Table 7 was used to find cDNAs that extended the genomic sequences. "LifeGold" databases are from Incyte Genomics, Inc (<http://www.incyte.com/>). NCBI databases are from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>). All blastn searches
10 were conducted using a blosum62 matrix, a penalty for a nucleotide mismatch of -3 and reward for a nucleotide match of 1. The gapped blast algorithm is described in: Altschul, Stephen F., Thomas L. Madden, Alejandro A. Schaffer, Jinghui Zhang, Zheng Zhang, Webb Miller, and David J. Lipman (1997), "Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: a new generation of protein database search programs", *Nucleic Acids Res.*
15 25:3389-3402).

Extension of partial DNA sequences to encompass the full-length open-reading frame was also carried out by iterative searches of genomic databases. The first method made use of the Smith-Waterman algorithm to carry out protein-protein searches of the closest homologue or orthologue to the partial. The target databases
20 consisted of Genescan and open-reading frame (ORF) predictions of all human genomic sequence derived from the human genome project (HGP) as well as from Celera. The complete set of genomic databases searched is shown in Table 8. below. Genomic sequences encoding potential extensions were further assessed by blastp analysis against the NCBI nonredundant to confirm the novelty of the hit. The
25 extending genomic sequences were incorporated into the cDNA sequence after removal of potential introns using the Seqman program from DNASTar. The default parameters used for Smith-Waterman searches were as shown next. Matrix: blosum 62; gap-opening penalty: 12; gap extension penalty: 2. Genescan predictions were made using the Genescan program as detailed in Chris Burge and Sam Karlin

"Prediction of Complete Gene Structures in Human Genomic DNA". JMB (1997) 268(1):78-94). ORF predictions from genomic DNA were made using a standard 6-frame translation.

Another method for defining DNA extensions from genomic sequence used
5 iterative searches of genomic databases through the Genescan program to predict exon splicing. These predicted genes were then assessed to see if they represented "real" extensions of the partial genes based on homology to related phosphatases.

Another method involved using the Genewise program
(<http://www.sanger.ac.uk/Software/Wise2/>) to predict potential ORFs based on
10 homology to the closest orthologue/homologue. Genewise requires two inputs, the homologous protein, and genomic DNA containing the gene of interest. The genomic DNA was identified by blastn searches of Celera and Human Genome Project databases. The orthologs were identified by blastp searches of the NCBI non-redundant protein database (NR). Genewise compares the protein sequence
15 to a genomic DNA sequence, allowing for introns and frameshifting errors.

TABLE 7: Databases used for cDNA-based sequence extensions

Database	Database Date
LifeGold templates	Oct 2000
LifeGold compseqs	Oct 2000
LifeGold compseqs	Oct 2000
LifeGold compseqs	Oct 2000
LifeGold fl	Oct 2000
LifeGold flt	Oct 2000
NCBI human Ests	Oct 2000
NCBI murine Ests	Oct 2000
NCBI nonredundant	Oct 2000

TABLE 8: Databases used for genomic-based sequence extensions

Database	Number of entries	Database Date
Celera v. 1-5	5,306,158	Jan 19/00
Celera v. 6-10	4,209,980	Mar24/00
Celera v. 11-14	7,222,425	Apr 24/00
Celera v. 15	243,044	May14/00
Celera v. 16-17	25,885	Apr 04/00
Celera Assembly 5 (R1.25)	3,313	Oct 13/00
Celera Assembly 4 (R1.24)	636,234	Aug 28/00
Celera Assembly 3 (R 1.22, 1.23)	1,132,900	Jul 21/00
HGP Phase 0	4,944	May 04/00
HGP Phase 1	28,478	May05/00
HGP Phase 2	1,508	May04/00
HGP Phase 3	9,971	May05/00
HGP Phase 0	3,189	Nov 1/00
HGP Phase 1	20,447	Nov 1/00
HGP Phase 2	1,619	Nov 1/00
HGP Phase 3	9,224	Nov 1/00
HGP Chromosomal assemblies	2759	Aug 1/00

Results:

The sources for the sequence information used to extend the genes in the provisional patents are listed below. For genes that were extended using Genewise, the accession numbers of the protein ortholog and the genomic DNA are given.

- 5 (Genewise uses the ortholog to assemble the coding sequence of the target gene from the genomic sequence). The amino acid sequences for the orthologs were obtained from the NCBI non-redundant database of proteins (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Entrez/protein.html>). The genomic DNA came from two sources: Celera and NCBI-NRNA, as indicated below. cDNA sources are also
10 listed below. Abbreviations: HGP: Human Genome Project; NCBI, National Center for Biotechnology Information.

SGP006 (SEQ ID NO:1)

- The N-terminal region (1-335) was derived from Genewise predictions using
15 Celera contig 300825903, with protein homologs gi|7242951, gi|8923483 and gi|6714641. Genscan predictions of Celera contig 300825903 was also used. NCBI ESTs used to extend sequence: BE793092.1, gi|9127446, gi|5927364, gi|8148569, gi|9096610, gi|10214290, gi|5927365, gi|4533101, gi|1948748, gi|2010582, gi|30571, gi|2433225, gi|8152915. Incyte sequence 339266.1 is missing exon 7
20 (GFSVSTAGRMHIFKPVSVQAMW). Public sequence gi|7242951 (KIAA1298) is missing exon 11 and starts near the beginning of exon 10. The lack of exon 11 causes a frameshift, and so KIAA1298 has a divergent N-terminal predicted peptide, reading exon 10 in a different frame. SGP006 is identical to KIAA1298 over the C-terminal 715 amino acids of SGP006 (amino acids 335 to 1049).

25

SGP006 (SEQ ID NO:1) is 6374 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 34 and ends at position 3183, giving an ORF length of 3150 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 1049 amino acids long. This sequence is full length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as

- 30 (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene maps to chromosomal position 12q21.3-q22. Amplification of this chromosomal position

has been associated with the following human diseases: Bladder carcinoma (12q21-q24, 1/16) (Knuutila, et al.). This gene contains candidate single nucleotide polymorphisms at the following positions: 6222-R (ccaaacataagtggcacar) dbSNP|rs881179_allele. ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are:

- 5 BE793092.1, AI651213.1, BE256978.1. This gene has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: Alu 5750-6010; 5750-5770.

SGP002 (SEQ ID NO:2)

- 10 SGP002 nucleic acid sequence was derived from Genewise algorithm run with Celera genomic DNA 70000016592596 and the protein homolog gi_6679156. A similar Genscan prediction gave an N-terminal extension, and comparison with HGP contig gi|7658297 corrected a frameshift in the genewise prediction. Close homologs are of same length. NCBI ESTs gi|7950699 and gi|760983 extend into 5' and 3' UTRs respectively. Genomic sequence was used to correct sequence errors in these ESTs. NCBI EST gi|10717958 encodes a splice variant. Incyte EST 1026659.2 encodes an alternative splice form missing an exon which includes part of the phosphatase domain. Incyte EST 1026659.7 adds further 172 nucleotides of 5' UTR to the gene. Incyte and public ESTs show expression in many tissues, most commonly digestive system, nervous system, respiratory system, and male and female genitalia.
- 15
20

- SGP002 (SEQ ID NO:2) is 2732 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 538 and ends at position 2535, giving an ORF length of 1998 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 665 amino acids long. This sequence is full length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene maps to chromosomal position 12p11.1-p12.1. This chromosomal position has been
- 25

BE897795. This gene has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: 2610-2631.

SGP001 (SEQ ID NO:3)

5 Used genscan, and genewise with Celera contig 5000012164505, and protein homologs gi_6714641 and gi_7242951. Several public and Incyte ESTs were used to extend the gene, using genomic data to correct for EST sequence errors. They were: Incyte sequences: 210343.1, 210343.2, 637331CB1; and NCBI ESTs: gi|3894502, gi|11100172, gi|11100172, gi|4137370, gi|6505071, gi|6885171, 10 gi|1123262, and gi|6590412.

SGP001 (SEQ ID NO:3) is 2260 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 709 and ends at position 2205, giving an ORF length of 1497 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 498 amino acids long. This sequence is full 15 length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene maps to chromosomal position Xp11.1-11.3. This chromosomal position has been associated with the following human diseases: Prostate cancer (Xp11-q13, 1:9) and small cell lung cancer (Xp11.2, 1/13) (Knuutila, et al.). ESTs for this gene in the public 20 domain (dbEST) are: A1272231, BF206586. This gene has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: 579-598.

SGP018 (SEQ ID NO:4)

25 The sequence for SGP018 is predicted from Celera contig 68000017706859, using Genscan and genewise with gi_7305011 and gi_7705959. The genewise prediction covered most of a putative phosphatase. The Genscan prediction overlapped and extended the genewise predictions, and almost all of the genscan was covered by ESTs from Incyte and dbEST. In all cases, ESTs were corrected by first aligning with genomic (Celera/HGP) sequence. A splice variant predicted by Genscan would replace the sequence SEFLDEALLTYR with YCHYTFSCVFIS 30 (changes the nt sequence ACIGTCATTACATCATTTTCTCTTGTGTTTCATTTC to

CTGAATTCTGGATGAGGCGCTGCTGAATTACAG. EST origins: Incyte sequences: 981712.1, 981712.3, 981712.2, 364575.1, 061688.1, 144608.1, 7668648H1, 7473603CB1, 7473604CB1. Public ESTs, including: gi|6880197, gi|6880191, gi|6880141, gi|5441204, gi|5441149, gi|1242174, gi|10984357. Genscan also predicts an alternative C terminus, where the sequence from VHL

5 to the C-terminus is replaced by

ANGNSVRSTSRFSSSTREGREMHKFSRSTVNETSSSREESPEPYFFRRTPESSEAREESPEPQRF
WARSRDWEDVEESSEKSDFEFGAKRKFTQSFMRSEEGEKERTENREEGRFASCRRSQYRRSNDR
EEEEMDDEAIIIAWRRRQEETRTKLQKRED.

10 The cDNA sequence from 544-612 is not covered by any ESTs. Accordingly, the upstream and downstream sequences could be different genes and a start at position 613 would give a peptide a later start, at MLESAL; this would give a protein with good homology and the same N-terminal length as the closest mouse homolog, PTP13. A possible alternative splice form seen by comparing incyte ESTs 061688.1 and 7668648H1 predicts a protein form which is missing the N-terminus and
15 instead starts at the sequence MTPEK

SGP018 (SEQ ID NO:4) is 4361 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 208 and ends at position 3609, giving an ORF length of 3402 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 1133 amino acids long. This sequence is full
20 length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene has not been mapped to a chromosomal position. This gene contains candidate single nucleotide polymorphisms at the following positions: 2929-M (agaagatgtctgagtaent) dbSNP ss1765941; 1161-S (catetaceccaatgas) dbSNP ss1765940. ESTs for this
25 gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: BC114881. This gene has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: 1603-1627.

SGP003 (SEQ ID NO:5)

SGP003 sequence is derived from Genewise with Celera contig
30 172600010613519, an NCBI RefSeq contig (U0708050) (Genbank accession

muscle, one each from bone and parathyroid gland. Corrected a frameshift in the sequence using HGP contig gi|10178266, and further extended the sequence by 5' walking the genomic until the first stop. SGP003 has a 235 nucleotide open reading frame preceding the start codon, extending from nucleotide 3 to nucleotide 239,

5 shown in capital letters below:

caAGGGTTTCAGGTGCACTGGAATAATCATTTTGCAAGCAGATGTATAGG
TCTCCTCTTAGACTGGACGGCACGCAAGGTGAGCGTCACAGATCTGACCCCTAAAAA
TAGGCCTCTGTTGCCAGTCGGGTGGCTGGGCGTGCAGCTGCTACATGCCCCACGG
ACCAAAACCTCCCGACGCGCCAGGCCCGGCACACCCAGCTGCAGAAAGGAGAGA
10 AAATCCCTTGGCTCTAAAtg

This open reading frame codes for the following peptide sequence:

QGFQVALENHFASRCHRSFLRLDGTQGRHRSDFKNEPLLPVGVAGRAAATCPTDQ
NLPTRPGPGTPSCRKERKSLGSK

15 The start codon at position 240 conforms to the Kozak rule for initiating methionines, having an A at the -3 position.

SGP003 (SEQ ID NO:5) is 1262 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 240 and ends at position 902, giving an ORF length of 663
20 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 220 amino acids long. This sequence is full length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene maps to chromosomal position CHR10. This gene has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: 311-334.

25

SGP014 (SEQ ID NO:6)

Sequence for SGP014 was built from Celera contig 92000005033031 using genscan and genewise, with protein homolog templates gi_7293532, gi_7705959 and gi_9502074. The predicted genewise/genscan proteins were extended by
30 overlaps with several ESTs from dbEST (AA723271, AW444890.1, AA435513.1), and confirmed the public sequence gi|7705959. The full predicted peptide is 549 AA, with full DSP domains from 37-181 and 368-541. The following NCBI ESTs

come from this gene: gi|11105857, gi|1998334, gi|1423340, gi|2186481, gi|6986652, gi|10372533, gi|2186305, gi|4825880, gi|2740908, gi|3213953, gi|2436350, gi|2140427, gi|2833919, gi|5768154, gi|1134009, gi|2046580, gi|4822411, gi|11152927. The following Incyte Sequences come from this gene: 128077.1,

- 5 1384255.1, 8009838H1, 304421CB1. Alternative splicing is very prevalent. The individual exons are as follows: a parenthetical AA at the end of an exon is a residue which crosses the exons at least in the FL form:

>Exon1:MAETSLPELCCEDKATPCPSILELEELLRACKSSCSRVDVWPNLFITGD (A)
 >Exon2:ATANNRFELWKLGITHTVIMAAHKGLYCQGGPDFYCSSVSYLECVPAPHDLPDFDISAYFSSA
 10 ADFTHRALNTPC (A)
 >Exon3:KVLVHCVVGVSRSATLVLAYMLHQRLSLRQAVITVRQHRWVFPNRFGLHQLCR
 LD (H)
 >Exon4:WSLLPAMGLCHFATLALILLVLEALAQADTQKMVEAQRGVGPRACYSIWLLLA
 PTPPLSHCLQSPQ
 15 >Exon5:EQHQVCGDRRLKASSTNCPSEKCTAWARYSHRW
 >Exon6:AHILVPLKIQLRPVDSFSQMPETSYLTRYGPDICWPESW (G)
 >Exon7:MDSLQKQDLRRPKIHGAVQASFYQPPTLASLQRLWVRQAATLNHIDEVWPSLF
 LGD (A)
 >Exon8:YAARDKSKLIQLGITHTVVNAAAGKFQVDTGAKFYRGMSLEYVGI EADDNPFDDL
 20 SVYFLPVARYIRAALSVPQ (E)
 >Exon9:DGHGCLFFPKGWVVQGVADAKLVLP TGRVLVHCAMGVSRSATLVLAFLMICEN
 MTLVEAIQTVQAHENICPNSGFLRQLQVLDNPLGRETCRF

- DSP domain 1 runs from the second half of Exon1 to the end of exon3,
 domain 2 runs from towards the end of exon7 to almost the end of exon 9.
 25 Alternative splicing shown by ESTs: Start of exon 9 (EDG-LPT) is missing in
 gi|6986652, gi|2186305, gi|10372533 is missing the end of exon 8 and the beginning
 of exon 9 (KFQ-LPT), gi|11105857 is missing exons 2, 3, 4, 6, and the beginning of
 exon 9 (EDG-GRV). It has a frameshift between exon 1 and 5, which may be a
 sequencing error, gi|2186481 is missing exons 2, 3, 6, gi|2740908, gi|2436350,

gi|2140427, gi|2833919, gi|5768154, gi|1134009, gi|2046580, gi|4822411, gi|11152927.

phosphatase domain, and is not similar to anything in the database. It could be due to genomic polymorphism between individuals, a repeated sequencing error, or possibly some form of gene regulation. These ESTs come from testis (2, same library), prostate and cardiac, so are not a library artifact. 8009838H1 has an
5 internal deletion within exon 2 from YLG-SSA. 304421CB1 is missing exons 2-6 and has a frameshift between exons 1 and 7, and is missing start of exon 9. 128077.1 is missing exons 2,3,6 and the start of exon 9.

SGP014 (SEQ ID NO:6) is 1917 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 31 and ends at position 1680, giving an ORF length of 1650
10 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 549 amino acids long. This sequence is full length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene maps to chromosomal position 10q21.3. This chromosomal position has been associated with the following human diseases: Squamous cell carcinomas of the head and neck
15 (10q21-q22, 2/30) (Knuutila, et al.). ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: AA723271, AW444890.1, AA435513.1.

SGP060 (SEQ ID NO:7)

The sequence of SGP060 is derived from Genewise, using Celera contig
20 6514035_1 and protein homolog NP_057448. NCBI ESTs used to extend the sequence include BF207232, BF314818, AW953216.1.

SGP060 (SEQ ID NO:7) is 636 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 1 and ends at position 636, giving an ORF length of 636
25 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 211 amino acids long. This sequence is full length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, MKP. This gene maps to chromosomal position 8p11.1-q11.1 centromeric. This chromosomal position has been associated with the following human diseases: breast carcinoma (8p11-p12.

8/53); non-small cell lung cancer (18p11.2, 2/50) (Knuutila, et al.). ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: BF207232, BF314818, AW953216.1.

SGP008 (SEQ ID NO:8)

- 5 Genscan and genewise were done on Celera contig 78000006091415, using homologs gi|9910432, gi|7294466 and gi|7298988. These were verified and extended with public EST's gi|7280554, gi|6925677 and gi|6142140, and Incyte sequence 7475576CB1. The predicted cDNA was corrected using sequence from the Celera contig and current HGP contigs. Comparison with non-human ESTs and
- 10 public protein sequences indicate that there may be an internal start to the protein, at amino acid position 95 (at MGNG).

- SGP008 (SEQ ID NO:8) is 1326 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 1 and ends at position 990, giving an ORF length of 990
- 15 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 329 amino acids long. This sequence is full length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Dual Phosphatase, DSP, STYX. This gene maps to chromosomal position 20q11.2. This gene contains candidate single nucleotide polymorphisms at the following positions: 871=S (cagcagcctccgagggaaccs)
- 20 dbSNP|ss1389419. ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: AW406620.1, BF377364.1, AW593296.1. This gene has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: 1251-1270.

SGP039 (SEQ ID NO:9)

- 25 SGP039 is derived from Celera sequence 17000030279756, and from Incyte sequences 272616.1 and 7476908CB1.

 SGP039 (SEQ ID NO:9) is 1083 nucleotides long. The open reading frame

(superfamily/group/family): Serine Phosphatase, STP, PP2C. This gene has not been mapped to a chromosomal position. ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: BE147139.

5 SGP040 (SEQ ID NO:10)

The sequence for SGP040 is derived from Celera sequence 17000091609039 and the public sequence NM_018444.1 for pyruvate dehydrogenase phosphatase.

SGP040, PDP (SEQ ID NO:10) is 1725 nucleotides long. The open reading
10 frame starts at position 1 and ends at position 1725, giving an ORF length of 1725
nucleotides. The predicted protein is 574 amino acids long. This sequence is full
length (start methionine to stop codon). It is classified as
(superfamily/group/family): Serine Phosphatase, STP, PP2C. This gene maps to
chromosomal position 8q21.3. This chromosomal position has been associated with
15 the following human diseases: Mantle cell lymphoma (18q21-q23; 5/50) (Knuutila,
et al.). ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: AV706533.1,
AV705571.1, AV710801.1.

SGP012 (SEQ ID NO:11)

20 The sequence for SGP012 is derived from Genewise, using Celera sequences
94000002120453; 142000016367225; 142000016006753, as genomic DNA input
and NP_031981 (murine PTP-EST) as protein homolog. Incyte ESTs that overlap
this sequence include 1005303.1, and 7109651_3. Public ESTs which overlap with
the sequence include AL042532.1, AI381571, and AW872677.

25

SGP012 PTP-ESP (SEQ ID NO:11) is 4719 nucleotides long. The open
reading frame starts at position 1 and ends at position 4719, giving an ORF length of
4719 nucleotides. The genomic sequence for this gene is of fairly poor quality, i.e.,
it has not been assembled and has apparent sequence errors. Thus the nucleic acid
30 and protein sequences are partial, with gaps indicated by "X" s in the sequence. The

predicted protein is 1573 amino acids long. This sequence contains the catalytic domain. It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Tyrosine Phosphatase, RPTP, PTPd. This gene has not been mapped to chromosomal position. ESTs for this gene in the public domain (dbEST) are: AL042532.1, AI381571, AW872677. This gene
5 has repetitive sequence at the following nucleotide positions: 1305-1324.

SGP024 (SEQ ID NO:12)

SGP024 is derived from Genewise using Celera DNA sequence 142000016226692 as geneomic source and NP_002830.1 (human PTP delta) as
10 protein homolog.

SGP024 (SEQ ID NO:12) is 354 nucleotides long. The open reading frame starts at position 1 and ends at position 357, giving an ORF length of 357 nucleotides. The predicted protein is 118 amino acids long. This sequence is a
15 partail catalytic domain. It is classified as (superfamily/group/family): Tyrosine Phosphatase, Receptor PTP, PTPdelta sub-family.

EXAMPLE 2: Predicted Proteins

20 SGP006, KIAA1298 (SEQ ID NO:1) encodes SEQ ID NO:13, a protein that is 1049 amino acids long. It is classified as an MKP. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile for a MKP DSP phosphatase from profile position 1 to profile position 173 (full length catalytic domain). The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 308 to amino
25 acid 446. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results. The C-terminus of SGP006 (amino acid positions 322 to 1049) is 100% identical to KIAA1298 protein (Homo sapiens). The output can be summarized as follows: P-

BAA92536.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: KIAA1298 protein [Homo sapiens]. The region N-terminal to this identity with KIAA1298 is novel – for amino acids 120 to 477, the results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) yielded
5 the following results: P-value = $1.50E-99$; number of identical amino acids = 248; percent identity = 46%; percent similarity = 59%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is BAA89534.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: MAP kinase phosphatase [Drosophila melanogaster]. The N-terminal sequence of SGP006, from amino acid 1 to 263, is
10 also novel, and the results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = $6.80E-58$; number of identical amino acids = 119; percent identity = 41%; percent similarity = 59%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_060327.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar
15 protein in NRAA is: Hypothetical protein FLJ20515 [Homo sapiens].

SGP002 (SEQ ID NO:2) encodes SEQ ID NO:14, a protein that is 665 amino acids long. It is classified as an MKP. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov MKP/DSP phosphatase domain from profile position 1
20 to profile position 173 (full length catalytic domain). The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 158 to amino acid 297. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = $1.10E-157$; number of identical amino acids = 304; percent identity = 46%; percent
25 similarity = 60%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_004411.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: dual specificity phosphatase 8 [Homo sapiens]. This protein contains a Rhodanese-like domain (amino acids 11 to 131). The rhodanese domain has been associated with thiosulfate: cyanide sulfurtransferase (EC 2.8.1.1) activity. The
30 presence of this domain may indicate that SGP002 is regulated in response to the

cellular redox environment (Nandi et al., *Int J Biochem Cell Biol* 2000 Apr;32(4):465-73; *Rhodanese as a thioredoxin oxidase*).

SGP001 (SEQ ID NO:3) encodes SEQ ID NO:15, a protein that is 498 amino acids long. It is classified as an MKP. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile for a MKP/DSP phosphatase domain from profile position 1 to profile position 173. The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 307 to amino acid 441. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: Pscore = 8.30E-133; number of identical amino acids = 250; percent identity = 47%; percent similarity = 60%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is BAA89534.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: MKP [*Drosophila melanogaster*].

15

SGP018 (SEQ ID NO:4) encodes SEQ ID NO:16, a protein that is 1133 amino acids long. It is classified as an MKP. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile from profile position MKP/DSPphosphatase domain from profile position 1 to profile position 173. The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 185 to amino acid 330. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = 2.20E-27; number of identical amino acids = 79; percent identity 45%; percent similarity = 63%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_057448.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Protein phosphatase LOC51207 [*Homo sapiens*].

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SGP003 (SEQ ID NO:5) encodes SEQ ID NO:17, a protein that is 220 amino

domain from profile position 1 to profile position 173. The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 54 to amino acid 199. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = $3.40E-54$; number of identical amino acids = 91; percent identity = 49%; percent similarity = 68%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_057448.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Protein phosphatase LOC51207 [Homo sapiens].

- 10 SGP014 (SEQ ID NO:6) encodes SEQ ID NO:18, a protein that is 549 amino acids long, with two phosphatase domains. Both domains in this protein match the hidden Markov profile for an MKP/DSP phosphatase profile from position 1 to profile position 173 (full length). Both DSP domains are similar, with best hits to gi|7705959 (human; partial of this gene), and DSP13 from mouse. The position of
15 the catalytic regions within the encoded protein are from amino acid 37 to amino acid 181 for the N-terminal domain, and from 368 to 520 for the C-terminal domain. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: for amino acid 324-549, P-value = $7.50E-122$; number of identical amino acids = 198;
20 percent identity = 88%; percent similarity = 88%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_057448.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Protein phosphatase LOC51207 [Homo sapiens]. For amino acids 1-198, the results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences yielded the following results: P-value = $8.20E-36$;
25 36; number of identical amino acids = 75; percent identity = 45%; percent similarity = 65%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_004081.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Dual specificity phosphatase 3 [Homo sapiens].

SGP060 (SEQ ID NO:7) encodes SEQ ID NO:19, a protein that is 211 amino acids long. It is classified as an MKP. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile for MKP/DSP phosphatase from profile position 1 to profile position 173 (full length). The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 61 to amino acid 204. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = $1.10E-48$; number of identical amino acids = 86; percent identity = 53%; percent similarity = 72%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_057448.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Protein phosphatase LOC51207 [Homo sapiens].

SGP008 (SEQ ID NO:8) encodes SEQ ID NO:20, a protein that is 329 amino acids long. It is classified as an MKP/STYX. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile from profile position MKP/DSPphosphatase domain from profile position 1 to profile position 173. The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 98 to amino acid 235. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = $4.40E-172$; number of identical amino acids = 260; percent identity = 92%; percent similarity = 92%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is CAC10008.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Novel protein [Homo sapiens].

SGP039 (SEQ ID NO:9) encodes SEQ ID NO:21, a protein that is 360 amino acids long. It is classified as : PP2C. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile from profile position 1 to profile position 301 (Full length catalytic). The position of the catalytic region within the encoded

sequence yielded the following results: P-value = 1.00E-106; number of identical amino acids = 164; percent identity = 98%; percent similarity = 99%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is AAD17235.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: PP 2C [Mus musculus].

SGP040, PDP (SEQ ID NO:10) encodes SEQ ID NO:22, a protein that is 574 amino acids long. It is classified as : PP2C. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile from position 1 to position 301. The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 209 to amino acid 497. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = 0; number of identical amino acids = 574; percent identity = 100%; percent similarity = 100%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_060914.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Pyruvate dehydrogenase phosphatase [Homo sapiens].

SGP012 PTP-ESP (SEQ ID NO:11) encodes SEQ ID NO:23, a protein that is 1573 amino acids long. It is classified as: PTP, delta phosphatase-like. . The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile for a PTP phosphatase, from profile position 1 to profile position 264 (full length catalytic). The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 1010 to 1259. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = 0; number of identical amino acids = 1053; percent identity = 60%; percent similarity = 70%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is NP_031981.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Embryonic stem cell phosphatase [Mus musculus]. This protein contains five fibronectin domains at amino acid positions 35-120; 128-208; 390-471; 484-558; 668-748. Gaps with the sequence are indicted by "XXX".

SGP024 (SEQ ID NO:12) encodes SEQ ID NO:24, a protein that is 118 amino acids long. It is classified as a PTP, related to PTP delta. The phosphatase domain in this protein matches the hidden Markov profile for a PTP from profile position 205 to profile position 264 (this is a partial catalytic domain, representing the C-terminal region). The position of the catalytic region within the encoded protein is from amino acid 3 to amino acid 58. The results of a Smith Waterman search of the public database of amino acid sequences (NRAA) with this protein sequence yielded the following results: P-value = 5.90E-54; number of identical amino acids = 90; percent identity = 76%; percent similarity = 82%; the accession number of the most similar entry in NRAA is CAA38068.1; the name or description, and species, of the most similar protein in NRAA is: Protein-tyrosine phosphatase delta [Homo sapiens].

15 **EXAMPLE 3. Expression analysis of Novel Mammalian Protein Phosphatases**

The gene expression patterns for selected genes were studied using two techniques: 1) a tissue microarray developed at Sugan, containing 499 tissues and probed with labeled genes; and 2) a commercial array of tissue from Clontech, probed with labeled genes.

20 **1) Tissue Arrays**

"cDNA libraries" derived from a variety of sources were immobilized onto nylon membranes and probed with ³²P-labeled cDNA fragments derived from the gene(s) of interest. The sources of RNA are listed in Table 3. They are: 1) Biochain Institute (Hayward, CA : http://www.biochain.com/main_3.html); 2) Clontech (Palo Alto, CA. <http://www.clontech.com/>); 3) mammalian cell lines used by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Developmental Therapeutics Program (<http://dtp.nci.nih.gov/>; can be ordered from ATCC: <http://www.atcc.org/catalogs.html>); 4) PathAssociates

treated with compounds to evaluate their effects on gene expression. There were eight treatments: 1) control, 2) low serum, 3) 200uM mimosine, 4) 3mM HU, 5) 2uM AUR2 inhibitor, 6) 10uM cisplatin, 7) 400 ng/ml nocodazole-24 hours, and 8) 400 ng/ml nocodazole-48 hours. The treated cell lines are listed by cell line name followed by a number from 1 to 8.

1.

"cDNA libraries" derived from over 450 tissue or cell line sources were immobilized onto nylon membranes and probed with ³²P-labeled cDNA fragments derived from the gene(s) of interest. To make the cDNA, total RNA or mRNA was used as template in a reverse transcription reaction to generate single-stranded cDNAs (ss cDNA) that were tagged with specific sequences at each end. An oligo dT primer containing a specific sequence (CDS:

AAGCAGTGGTAACAACGCAGAGTACT₃₀VN (V=A,G,C N=A,G,C,T)) anneals at the polyA track at the 3' end of the mRNA and the reverse transcriptase (MMLV RnaseII) transcribes the antisense strand until it reaches the end of the RNA strand when it adds additional C residues. If a primer (SMII:

AAGCAGTGGTAACAACGCAGAGTACGCGGG or ML2G: AAGTGGCAACAGAGATAACGCGTACGCGGG) ending with 3 Gs is added, it anneals to the added Cs and the MMLV recognizes the rest of the primer sequence as template and continues transcription. As a result, the synthesized cDNAs contain specific sequence tags at both the 5' and the 3' end. When the 5' and the 3' ends are tagged with the same sequence (CDS and SMII) it is referred to as "symmetric".

When the 5' end is tagged with a different sequence than the 3' end (CDS and ML2G) is referred to as "asymmetric". A double-stranded "cDNA library" is then generated by PCR amplification using the 3'PCR and ML2 primers (3' PCR: AAGCAGTGGTAACAACGCAGAGT and ML2: AAGTGGCAACAGAGATAACGCGT) that anneal to the added sequence tags.

The amplified "cDNA libraries" were manually arrayed onto nylon membranes with a 384 pin replicator. The DNA was denatured by alkali treatment, neutralized and cross-linked by UV light. The arrays were pre-hybridized with

Express Hyb (Clontech) and hybridized with ^{32}P labeled probes generated by random hexamer priming of cDNA fragments corresponding to the genes of interest. After washing, the blots were exposed to phosphorimaging cassettes and the intensity of the signal was quantified. The amount of the DNA on the arrays was also quantified by treating non-denatured or denatured arrays with Syber Green I or Syber Green II respectively (1:100,000 in 50mM Tris, pH8.0) for 2 minutes. After washing with 50mM Tris, pH8.0, the fluorescent emission was detected with a phosphorimager (Molecular Dynamics) and quantified. The amount of the arrayed DNA was used to normalize the hybridization signal and the corrected values are tabulated in Table 5.

Statistical Methods:

The tissue array data for the 3 phosphatases were standardized for statistical analysis across the different tissue types using range standardization. Standardization converts measurements to a common scale. We used range standardization, which subtracts the smallest value of each variable from each value and divides by its range. The new scale starts at 0 and ends at 1.0. The following statistical procedures were implemented on the standardized data: generation of descriptive statistics, graphical visualization, hierarchical and k-means cluster analysis (at 10, 7, and 5 clusters), and comparison of groups using analysis of variance (ANOVA). When tissue-specific data were present for both normal and tumor samples, the two groups were directly compared for fold differences. All statistical analyses were carried out separately for the symmetric and asymmetric tissue array laboratory methods because we know from experience with past data that gene expression is dependent upon the method used. All statistical analyses were carried out using SYSTAT 9.01 (Copyright © 1999 by SPSS, Inc.).

Table 9. Fold difference in mean expression between normal human tissue and cancer cell lines, and between normal tissue and tumor samples.

CDNA	Gene	Normal vs. Tumor			
		Tissue vs. Cell Line	Pooled	Within Cell Line	Within Tissue
Symmetric	SGP003	23.02	28	6.26	10.92
Symmetric	SGP060	2.86	2.67	-1.92	0
Symmetric	SGP018	2.25	2.33	2.4	-1.32
Asymmetric	SGP003	+2.33**	1.37	1.19	-1.03
Asymmetric	SGP060	+2.38****	1.08	-2.06	-1.26
Asymmetric	SGP018	1.01	1.51***	-1.43*	-1.72**

• (ANOVA F, $p \leq 0.1$), ** (ANOVA F, $p \leq 0.05$), *** (ANOVA F, $p \leq 0.01$),

5 • **** (ANOVA F, $p \leq 0.0001$)

Symmetric: [n = 41 (tissue), 66 (cell line), 4 (normal cell line), 62 (tumor cell line), 40 (normal tissue), and 1 (tumor tissue)].

Asymmetric: [n = 112 (tissue), 262 (cell line), 43 (normal cell line), 219 (tumor cell line), 49 (normal tissue), and 63 (tumor tissue)].

10

Discussion

1. SGP003 (SEQ ID NO:5)

- 15 • This gene was observed to express consistently higher in tissue samples (as versus cell-line samples) and in normal samples (as versus tumor samples) in both the symmetric and asymmetric methods. We observed much higher fold differences in the symmetric method than in the asymmetric method (Table 9), but because of inadequate sample size and large variation in the data, we did not find the difference to be statistically significant in the symmetric method. On the other hand, the fold difference of 2.33 between the tissue and cell-line samples in the asymmetric method was statistically significant at $p < 0.05$. Because this
- 20

phosphatase is expressed higher in normal than in tumor samples. it may play a role in tumor suppression. Highest levels of expression of this gene were observed in the normal samples, particularly those drawn from brain, fetal brain, fetal kidney, and glandular tissues such as the pituitary and adrenal gland. We did observe some relatively high levels of expression in a few tumor samples (lymphoblastoma, neuroblastoma, melanoma, lung, colon, breast, and renal tumors). Selected clusters and their rankings according to levels of expression for this phosphatase are listed below:

10 (Symmetric data)

Cluster ranking by highest mean expression:

- Cluster 1 (singleton). **NORMAL GROUP:** heart sample (tissue).
- 15 • Cluster 2 (singleton). **NORMAL GROUP:** spinal cord (tissue).
- Cluster 3 (8 members). **NORMAL GROUP** only: colon (stomach tissue), colon (small intestinal tissue), mammary epithelial cells (cell line), spleen (heme tissue), lymph node (heme tissue), fetal lung (tissue), fetal brain (neural tissue), and prostate (tissue).

20

(Asymmetric data)

Cluster ranking by highest mean expression:

- 25 • Cluster 1 (singleton). **NORMAL GROUP:** adrenal gland (tissue).
- Cluster 2 (3 members). **NORMAL GROUP:** thymus (heme tissue). **TUMOR GROUP:** lung carcinoma (cell line), and a neuro sample (tissue).

4. **Cluster 3 (2 members).** **NORMAL GROUP:** heart sample (tissue), and a neuro sample (tissue).

ADRENAL GLAND

line), breast (cell line), unknown (cell line), breast (cell line), HNS (tissue),
 endothelial (cell line), endothelial (cell line), prostate (tissue), kidney (tissue),
 and renal adenocarcinoma (cell line).

5 2. **SGP060 (SEQ ID NO:7)**

- The highest expressers in the asymmetric method were tumor samples. Although they represented different types of tumors, we observed consistently very high expression in various lung cancer samples. This gene may be an oncogene
 10 important in lung cancer. In normal tissues, it expressed highest in brain tissue samples and in fetal kidney. Selected clusters and their rankings according to levels of expression for this phosphatase are listed below:

Cluster ranking by highest mean expression (Asymmetric data):

15

- Cluster 1 (2 members). **TUMOR GROUP** only: lung (tissue) and lung carcinoma (cell line).
- Cluster 2 (3 members). **TUMOR GROUP**: lung (tissue) and ovary adenocarcinoma (cell line); and **NORMAL GROUP**: prostate (tissue).
- 20 • Cluster 3 (3 members). **TUMOR GROUP** only: lung (tissue), neuroblastoma (tissue), and colon carcinoma (cell line).
- Cluster 4 (8 members). **TUMOR GROUP**: MG (tissue), smc (cell line), glioblastoma (cell line), lung large cell carcinoma (cell line), END (tissue), primary renal cell carcinoma (cell line), and lung (tissue); and **NORMAL**
 25 **GROUP**: brain (tissue).
- Cluster 5 (10 members). **TUMOR GROUP**: lung (tissue), malignant melanoma metastasis to lung (cell line), colon adenocarcinoma (cell line), renal (cell line), unknown sample (MK ploy A⁺), breast (cell line), renal primary clear cell carcinoma metastasizing (cell line), ovary (tissue), and neuroblastoma
 30 (keratinocyte cell line); and **NORMAL GROUP**: fetal kidney (tissue).

AUR2 inhibitor), breast (cell line, treated with normal/10% FBS), breast (cell line, treated with 2 uM AUR2 inhibitor), breast (cell line, treated with 200 uM mimosine), bone (cell line, treated with low serum/0.1% FBS), colon (cell line, treated with 10 uM cisplatin), cervical (cell line, treated with low serum/0.1% FBS),
5 endothelial cells (cell line), kidney (tissue), pancreas (tissue), and renal (cell line):
NORMAL GROUP: endothelial cells (cell line, treated with HUVEC VEGF+5416-24 hours), lung (tissue), endothelial cells (cell line, HUVEC unstimulated/control), and stomach (colon tissue).

10 2) Multiple Tissue Expression blots (MTE)

MTE (Multiple Tissue Expression) blots were obtained from Clontech Laboratories, Inc (see table 6). These blots contained 84 arrayed cDNA samples derived from normal human tissue and human cell lines, and controls. The expression blots were prehybridized with ExpressHyb hybridization solution
15 (Clontech Laboratories) containing 0.1 mg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA at a temperature of 65 °C for two hours. Radioactive DNA probes were prepared using the Random Priming DNA labeling kit (Roche). Purified DNA fragments (100 ng) were labeled with 250 uCi of 32P-labeled dCTP for 45 minutes using the kit protocol. Unincorporated nucleotide was removed through the use of a spin column
20 (ProbeQuant G50 micro columns, Amersham Pharmacia, Inc.). After denaturation by boiling for three minutes, the probe was introduced into the prehybridization solution, and the blot was hybridized at 65 °C for 20 hours. The blot was subsequently washed four times for 15 minutes each at 65 °C in a solution containing 15 mM NaCl, 1.5 mM Na₃Citrate, 0.1% sodium lauryl sulfate (SDS) and
25 exposed to the phosphorimager screen for quantitation.

RESULTS

SGP012 (SEQ ID NO:11, encoding SEQ ID NO:23) is expressed at the highest levels in the following tissues: testis; cerebellum, right; colon, descending;
30 cerebellum left; lymph node; Burkitt's lymphoma; Daudi; and mammary gland.

This pattern of expression suggests that SGP012 may play a role in diseases of the central nervous system (cerebellum expression), in immune system disease (the lymph node, Burkitt's lymphoma, and Daudi are all immune system tissues), or breast cancer (from expression in mammary tissue).

5

SGP002 (SEQ ID NO:2, encoding SEQ ID NO:14) is expressed at the highest levels in the following tissues: adrenal gland; placenta; prostate; salivary gland; mammary gland; pituitary gland. Expression in the prostate and breast may indicate a role for this phosphatase in cancer of these tissues. Expression in the
10 adrenal gland may indicate a role in metabolic processes controlled by that gland, such as stress response.

EXAMPLE 4: Chromosomal Localization of Mammalian Protein Phosphatases

Several sources were used to find information about the chromosomal
15 localization of the genes in the present invention. First, the accession number for the nucleic acid sequence was used to query the Unigene database. The site containing the Unigene search engine is: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/UniGene/Hs.Home.html>. Information on map position within the Unigene database is imported from several sources, including the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM,
20 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Omim/searchomim.html>), The Genome Database (<http://gdb.infobiogen.fr/gdb/simpleSearch.html>), and the Whitehead Institute human physical map (http://carbon.wi.mit.edu:8000/cgi-bin/contig sts_info?database=release). If Unigene has not mapped the EST, then the nucleic acid for the gene of interest is used as a query against databases, such as
25 dbsts and htgs (described at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/blast_databases.html) containing sequences that have been mapped already. The nucleic acid sequence is searched using

OMIM with the cytogenetic location. OMIM maintains a searchable catalog of cytogenetic map locations organized by disease. A thorough search of available literature for the cytogenetic region is also made using Medline (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/medline.html>). References for association of the mapped sites with chromosomal abnormalities found in human cancer can be found in: Knuutila, et al., Am J Pathol, 1998, 152:1107-1123. The results are discussed in the Section on Nucleic Acids above.

EXAMPLE 5: Candidate Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs)

Materials and Methods

The most common variations in human DNA are single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), which occur approximately once every 100 to 300 bases. Because SNPs are expected to facilitate large-scale association genetics studies, there has recently been great interest in SNP discovery and detection. Candidate SNPs for the genes in this patent were identified by blastn searching the nucleic acid sequences against the public database of sequences containing documented SNPs (dbSNP, at NCBI, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SNP/snpblastpretty.html>). dbSNP accession numbers for the SNP-containing sequences are given. SNPs were also identified by comparing several databases of expressed genes (dbEST, NRNA) and genomic sequence (i.e., NRNA) for single basepair mismatches. The results are shown in Table 2, in the column labeled "SNPs". These are candidate SNPs – their actual frequency in the human population was not determined. The code below is standard for representing DNA sequence:

25

G	=	Guanosine
A	=	Adenosine
T	=	Thymidine
C	=	Cytidine
30 R	=	G or A, puRine
Y	=	C or T, pYrimidine

acid, when nucleotide 549=G; or amino acid 183 can be an aspartic acid, when nucleotide 549=C. This change is fairly conservative, since both amino acids are acidic, but could alter the biology of the enzyme. A second SNP is silent: 2929=M (agaagatgtctgagtacm) dbSNP|ss1765941, results in a Glycine at amino position 977
5 with either a C or A at that position

SGP008 has a single nucleotide polymorphism at position 871: 871=S (cagcagcctccgagggaaccs). The accession number for this SNP in dbSNP is ss1389419. This is a non-silent change, with position 291 either a valine, when
10 nucleotide 871 = G, or a leucine, when nucleotide 871 = C. This change could alter the biology of the enzyme.

EXAMPLE 6: Isolation of cDNAs Encoding Mammalian Protein PhosphatasesMaterials and MethodsIdentification of novel clones

5 Total RNAs are isolated using the Guanidine Salts/Phenol extraction protocol of Chomczynski and Sacchi (P. Chomczynski and N. Sacchi, Anal. Biochem. 162, 156 (1987)) from primary human tumors, normal and tumor cell lines, normal human tissues, and sorted human hematopoietic cells. These RNAs are used to generate single-stranded cDNA using the Superscript Preamplification System (GIBCO BRL, Gaithersburg, MD; Gerard, GF *et al.* (1989), FOCUS 11, 66) under conditions recommended by the manufacturer. A typical reaction uses 10 μ g total RNA with 1.5 μ g oligo(dT)₁₂₋₁₈ in a reaction volume of 60 μ L. The product is treated with RNaseH and diluted to 100 μ L with H₂O. For subsequent PCR amplification, 1-4 μ L of this sscDNA is used in each reaction.

15 Degenerate oligonucleotides are synthesized on an Applied Biosystems 3948 DNA synthesizer using established phosphoramidite chemistry, precipitated with ethanol and used unpurified for PCR. These primers are derived from the sense and antisense strands of conserved motifs within the catalytic domain of several protein phosphatases. Degenerate nucleotide residue designations are: N = A, C, G, or T; R = A or G; Y = C or T; H = A, C or T not G; D = A, G or T not C; S = C or G; and W = A or T.

25 PCR reactions are performed using degenerate primers applied to multiple single-stranded cDNAs. The primers are added at a final concentration of 5 μ M each to a mixture containing 10 mM TrisHCl, pH 8.3, 50 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 200 μ M each deoxynucleoside triphosphate, 0.001% gelatin, 1.5 U AmpliTaq DNA Polymerase (Perkin-Elmer/Cetus), and 1-4 μ L cDNA. Following 3 min denaturation at 95 °C, the cycling conditions are 94 °C for 30 s, 50 °C for 1 min, and 72 °C for 1

Colonies are selected for mini plasmid DNA-preparations using Qiagen columns and the plasmid DNA is sequenced using a cycle sequencing dye-terminator kit with AmpliTaq DNA Polymerase, FS (ABI, Foster City, CA). Sequencing reaction products are run on an ABI Prism 377 DNA Sequencer, and
5 analyzed using the BLAST alignment algorithm (Altschul, S.F. *et al.*, J.Mol.Biol. 215: 403-10).

Additional PCR strategies are employed to connect various PCR fragments or ESTs using exact or near exact oligonucleotide primers. PCR conditions are as described above except the annealing temperatures are calculated for each oligo pair
10 using the formula: $T_m = 4(G+C) + 2(A+T)$.

Isolation of cDNA clones:

Human cDNA libraries are probed with PCR or EST fragments corresponding to phosphatase-related genes. Probes are ^{32}P -labeled by random
15 priming and used at 2×10^6 cpm/mL following standard techniques for library screening. Pre-hybridization (3 h) and hybridization (overnight) are conducted at 42 °C in 5X SSC, 5X Denhart's solution, 2.5% dextran sulfate, 50 mM $\text{Na}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{NaHPO}_4$, pH 7.0, 50% formamide with 100 mg/mL denatured salmon sperm DNA. Stringent washes are performed at 65 °C in 0.1X SSC and 0.1% SDS.
20 DNA sequencing is carried out on both strands using a cycle sequencing dye-terminator kit with AmpliTaq DNA Polymerase, FS (ABI, Foster City, CA). Sequencing reaction products are run on an ABI Prism 377 DNA Sequencer.

EXAMPLE 7: Protein Phosphatase Gene ExpressionExpression Vector Construction

5 Expression constructs are generated for some of the human cDNAs including: a) full-length clones in a pCDNA expression vector; b) a GST-fusion construct containing the catalytic domain of the novel phosphatase fused to the C-terminal end of a GST expression cassette; and c) a full-length clone containing a Cys to Ser (C to S) mutation at the predicted catalytic site within the phosphatase
10 domain, inserted in the pCDNA vector.

 The "C to S" mutants of the phosphatase might function as dominant negative constructs, and will be used to elucidate the function of these novel phosphatases.

EXAMPLE 8: Generation of Specific Immunoreagents to Protein**Phosphatases**Materials and Methods

 Specific immunoreagents are raised in rabbits against KLH- or MAP-conjugated synthetic peptides corresponding to isolated phosphatase polypeptides. C-terminal peptides are conjugated to KLH with glutaraldehyde, leaving a free C-
20 terminus. Internal peptides are MAP-conjugated with a blocked N-terminus. Additional immunoreagents can also be generated by immunizing rabbits with the bacterially expressed GST-fusion proteins containing the cytoplasmic domains of each novel PEP or STP.

 The various immune sera are first tested for reactivity and selectivity to
25 recombinant protein, prior to testing for endogenous sources.

Western blots

 Proteins in SDS PAGE are transferred to immobilon membrane. The

X-100). Blocking and antibody incubation buffer is PBST +5% milk. Antibody dilutions varied from 1:1000 to 1:2000.

EXAMPLE 9: Recombinant Expression and Biological Assays for Protein

5 Phosphatases

Materials and Methods

Transient Expression of Phosphatases in Mammalian Cells

The pcDNA expression plasmids (10 µg DNA/100 mm plate) containing the STE20-related phosphatase constructs are introduced into 293 cells with
10 lipofectamine (Gibco BRL). After 72 hours, the cells are harvested in 0.5 mL solubilization buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.35, 150 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, 1% Triton X-100, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EGTA, 2 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, 1 µg/mL aprotinin). Sample aliquots are resolved by SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) on 6% acrylamide/0.5% bis-acrylamide gels and
15 electrophoretically transferred to nitrocellulose. Non-specific binding is blocked by preincubating blots in Blotto (phosphate buffered saline containing 5% w/v non-fat dried milk and 0.2% v/v Nonidet P-40 (Sigma)), and recombinant protein was detected using the various anti-peptide or anti-GST-fusion specific antisera.

20 In Vitro Phosphatase Assays

Three days after transfection with the phosphatase expression constructs, a 10 cm plate of 293 cells is washed with PBS and solubilized on ice with 2 mL PBSTDS containing phosphatase inhibitors (10 mM NaHPO₄, pH 7.25, 150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100, 0.5% deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS, 0.2% sodium azide, 1 mM
25 NaF, 1 mM EGTA, 4 mM sodium orthovanadate, 1% aprotinin, 5 µg/mL leupeptin). Cell debris is removed by centrifugation (12000 x g, 15 min, 4 °C) and the lysate is precleared by two successive incubations with 50 µL of a 1:1 slurry of protein A sepharose for 1 hour each. One-half mL of the cleared supernatant is reacted with 10 µL of protein A purified phosphatase-specific antisera (generated from the GST
30 fusion protein or antipeptide antisera) plus 50 µL of a 1:1 slurry of protein A-

sepharose for 2 hr at 4 °C. The beads are then washed 2 times in PBSTDs, and 2 times in HNTG (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.5/150 mM NaCl, 0.1% Triton X-100, 10% glycerol).

The immunopurified phosphatases on sepharose beads are resuspended in 20
 5 μ L HNTG plus 30 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM MnCl₂, and 20 μ Ci [α -³²P]ATP (3000 Ci/mmol). The phosphatase reactions are run for 30 min at room temperature, and stopped by addition of HNTG supplemented with 50 mM EDTA. The samples are washed 6 times in HNTG, boiled 5 min in SDS sample buffer and analyzed by 6% SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography. Phosphoamino acid analysis is
 10 performed by standard 2D methods on ³²P-labeled bands excised from the SDS-PAGE gel.

Similar assays are performed on bacterially expressed GST-fusion constructs of the phosphatases.

15

EXAMPLE 10: Demonstration Of Gene Amplification By Southern Blotting

Materials and Methods

Nylon membranes are purchased from Boehringer Mannheim. Denaturing solution contains 0.4 M NaOH and 0.6 M NaCl. Neutralization solution contains
 20 0.5 M Tris-HCL, pH 7.5 and 1.5 M NaCl. Hybridization solution contains 50% formamide, 6X SSPE, 2.5X Denhardt's solution, 0.2 mg/mL denatured salmon DNA, 0.1 mg/mL yeast tRNA, and 0.2 % sodium dodecyl sulfate. Restriction enzymes are purchased from Boehringer Mannheim. Radiolabeled probes are prepared using the Prime-it II kit by Stratagene. The beta-actin DNA fragment used
 25 for a probe template is purchased from Clontech.

Genomic DNA is isolated from a variety of tumor cell lines (such as MCF-7, MDA-MB-231, Calu-6, A549, HCT-15, HT-29, Colo 205, LS-180, DLD-1, HCT-116, PC3, CAPAN-2, MIA PaCa-2, PANC-1, A549, R4PC3, OVCA9-3,

A 10 µg aliquot of each genomic DNA sample is digested with EcoR I restriction enzyme and a separate 10 µg sample is digested with Hind III restriction enzyme. The restriction-digested DNA samples are loaded onto a 0.7% agarose gel and, following electrophoretic separation, the DNA is capillary-transferred to a nylon membrane by standard methods (Sambrook, J. et al (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory).

EXAMPLE 11: Detection Of Protein-Protein Interaction Through Phage Display

Materials And Methods

Phage display provides a method for isolating molecular interactions based on affinity for a desired bait. cDNA fragments cloned as fusions to phage coat proteins are displayed on the surface of the phage. Phage(s) interacting with a bait are enriched by affinity purification and the insert DNA from individual clones is analyzed.

T7 Phage Display Libraries

All libraries are constructed in the T7Select1-1b vector (Novagen) according to the manufacturer's directions.

Bait Presentation

Protein domains to be used as baits are generated as C-terminal fusions to GST and expressed in *E. coli*. Peptides are chemically synthesized and biotinylated at the N-terminus using a long chain spacer biotin reagent.

Selection

Aliquots of refreshed libraries (10^{10} - 10^{12} pfu) supplemented with PanMix and a cocktail of *E. coli* inhibitors (Sigma P-8465) are incubated for 1-2 hrs at room temperature with the immobilized baits. Unbound phage is extensively washed (at least 4 times) with wash buffer.

After 3-4 rounds of selection, bound phage is eluted in 100 µL of 1% SDS and plated on agarose plates to obtain single plaques.

Identification of insert DNAs

Individual plaques are picked into 25 μ L of 10 mM EDTA and the phage is disrupted by heating at 70 °C for 10 min. 2 μ L of the disrupted phage are added to 50 μ L PCR reaction mix. The insert DNA is amplified by 35 rounds of thermal cycling (94 °C, 50 sec; 50 °C, 1min; 72 °C, 1min).

5 Composition of Buffer

10x PanMix

5% Triton X-100

10% non-fat dry milk (Carnation)

10 mM EGTA

10 250 mM NaF

250 μ g/mL Heparin (sigma)

250 μ g/mL sheared, boiled salmon sperm DNA (sigma)

0.05% Na azide

Prepared in PBS

15 Wash Buffer

PBS supplemented with:

0.5% NP-40

25 μ l g/mL heparin

PCR reaction mix

20 1.0 mL 10x PCR buffer (Perkin-Elmer, with 15 mM Mg)

0.2 mL each dNTPs (10 mM stock)

0.1 mL T7UP primer (15 pmol μ L) GGAGCTGTCGTATTCAGTC

0.1 mL T7DN primer (15 pmol μ L) AACCCCTCAAGACCCGTTAG

0.2 mL 25 mM MgCl₂ or MgSO₄ to compensate for EDTA

25 Q.S. to 10 mL with distilled water

Add 1 unit of Taq polymerase per 50 μ L reaction

LIBRARY: T7 Select1-H441

It will be appreciated that, in any given series of compounds, a spectrum of biological activity will be observed. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to compounds demonstrating the ability to modulate protein enzymes related to cellular signal transduction; preferably, protein phosphatases; and most preferably, protein tyrosine phosphatases. The assays described below are employed to select those compounds demonstrating the optimal degree of the desired activity.

As used herein, the phrase "optimal degree of desired activity" refers to the highest therapeutic index, defined above, against a protein enzyme which mediates cellular signal transduction and which is related to a particular disorder so as to provide an animal or a human patient, suffering from such disorder with a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of this invention at the lowest possible dosage.

Assays For Determining Inhibitory Activity

Various procedures known in the art may be used for identifying, evaluating or assaying the inhibition of activity of protein enzymes, in particular protein phosphatases, by the compounds of the invention. For example but without limitation, with regard to phosphatases such assays involve exposing target cells in culture to the compounds and (a) biochemically analyzing cell lysates to assess the level and/or identity of phosphorylated proteins; or (b) scoring phenotypic or functional changes in treated cells as compared to control cells that were not exposed to the test substance.

Where mimics of the natural ligand for a signal transducing receptor are to be identified or evaluated, the cells are exposed to the compound of the invention and compared to positive controls which are exposed only to the natural ligand, and to negative controls which are not exposed to either the compound or the natural ligand. For receptors that are known to be phosphorylated at a basal level in the absence of the natural ligand, such as the insulin receptor, the assay may be carried out in the absence of the ligand. Where inhibitors or enhancers of ligand induced

signal transduction are to be identified or evaluated, the cells are exposed to the compound of the invention in the presence of the natural ligand and compared to controls which are not exposed to the compound of the invention.

The assays described below may be used as a primary screen to evaluate the ability of the compounds of this invention to inhibit phosphatase activity of the compounds of the invention. The assays may also be used to assess the relative potency of a compound by testing a range of concentrations, in a range from 100 μ M to 1 pM, for example, and computing the concentration at which the amount of phosphorylation or signal transduction is reduced or increased by 50% (IC₅₀) compared to controls.

Biochemical Assays

In one embodiment target cells having a substrate molecule that is phosphorylated or dephosphorylated on a tyrosine residue during signal transduction are exposed to the compounds of the invention and radiolabelled phosphate, and thereafter, lysed to release cellular contents, including the substrate of interest. The substrate may be analyzed by separating the protein components of the cell lysate using a sodium dodecyl sulphate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) technique, in either one or two dimensions, and detecting the presence of phosphorylated proteins by exposing to X-ray film. In a similar technique, but without radioactive labeling, the protein components separated by SDS-PAGE are transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane, the presence of pTyr is detected using an antiphosphotyrosine (anti-pTyr) antibody. Alternatively, it is preferred that the substrate of interest be first isolated by incubating the cell lysate with a substrate-specific anchoring antibody bound to a solid support, and thereafter, washing away non-bound cellular components, and assessing the presence or absence of pTyr on the solid support by an anti-pTyr antibody. This preferred method can readily be

The anti-pTyr antibody can be detected by labeling it with a radioactive substance which facilitates its detection by autoradiography. Alternatively, the anti-pTyr antibody can be conjugated with an enzyme, such as horseradish peroxidase, and detected by subsequent addition of an appropriate substrate for the enzyme, the
5 choice of which would be clear to one skilled in the art. A further alternative involves detecting the anti-pTyr antibody by reacting with a second antibody which recognizes the anti-pTyr antibody, this second antibody being labeled with either a radioactive substance or an enzyme as previously described. Any other methods for the detection of an antibody known in the art may be used.

10 The above methods may also be used in a cell-free system wherein cell lysate containing the signal-transducing substrate molecule and phosphatase is mixed with a compound of the invention and a kinase. The substrate is phosphorylated by initiating the kinase reaction by the addition of adenosine triphosphate (ATP). To assess the activity of the compound, the reaction mixture may be analyzed by the
15 SDS-PAGE technique or it may be added to a substrate-specific anchoring antibody bound to a solid support, and a detection procedure as described above is performed on the separated or captured substrate to assess the presence or absence of pTyr. The results are compared to those obtained with reaction mixtures to which the compound is not added. The cell-free system does not require the natural ligand or
20 knowledge of its identity. For example, Posner *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,155,031) describes the use of insulin receptor as a substrate and rat adipocytes as target cells to demonstrate the ability of pervanadate to inhibit PTP activity. Burke *et al.*, 1994, *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm.*, 204:129-134) describes the use of autophosphorylated insulin receptor and recombinant PTP1B in assessing the
25 inhibitory activity of a phosphotyrosyl mimetic.

In addition to measuring phosphorylation or dephosphorylation of substrate proteins, activation or modulation of second messenger production, changes in cellular ion levels, association, dissociation or translocation of signaling molecules, gene induction or transcription or translation of specific genes may also be

monitored. These biochemical assays may be performed using conventional techniques developed for these purposes.

Biological Assays

The ability of the compounds of this invention to modulate the activity of PTPs, which control signal transduction, may also be measured by scoring for morphological or functional changes associated with ligand binding. Any qualitative or quantitative techniques known in the art may be applied for observing and measuring cellular processes which come under the control of phosphatases in a signaling pathway. Such cellular processes may include, but are not limited to, anabolic and catabolic processes, cell proliferation, cell differentiation, cell adhesion, cell migration and cell death.

The techniques that have been used for investigating the various biological effects of vanadate as a phosphatase inhibitor may be adapted for use with the compounds of the invention. For example, vanadate has been shown to activate an insulin-sensitive facilitated transport system for glucose and glucose analogs in rat adipocytes (Dubyak *et al.*, 1980, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 256:5306-5312). The activity of the compounds of the invention may be assessed by measuring the increase in the rate of transport of glucose analog such as 2-deoxy-³H-glucose in rat adipocytes that have been exposed to the compounds. Vanadate also mimics the effect of insulin on glucose oxidation in rat adipocytes (Shechter *et al.*, 1980, *Nature*, 284:556-558). The compounds of this invention may be tested for stimulation of glucose oxidation by measuring the conversion of ¹⁴C-glucose to ¹⁴CO₂. Moreover, the effect of sodium orthovanadate on erythropoietin-mediated cell proliferation has been measured by cell cycle analysis based on DNA content as estimated by incorporation of tritiated thymidine during DNA synthesis (Spivak *et al.*, 1992, *Exp. Hematol.*, 20:500-504). Likewise, the activity of the compounds of this invention toward phosphatases that play a role in cell proliferation may be assessed by cell

dysfunctional signal transduction. For example, the activity of a compound of this invention may be tested for its effect on insulin receptor signal transduction in non-obese diabetic mice (Lund *et al.*, 1990, *Nature*, 345:727-729), B B Wistar rats and streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats (Solomon *et al.*, 1989, *Am. J. Med. Sci.*, 5 297:372-376). The activity of the compounds may also be assessed in animal carcinogenesis experiments since phosphatases can play an important role in dysfunctional signal transduction leading to cellular transformation. For example, okadaic acid, a phosphatase inhibitor, has been shown to promote tumor formation on mouse skin (Suganuma *et al.*, 1988, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 85:1768-1771).

10 The data obtained from these cell culture assays and animal studies can be used in formulating a range of dosages for use in humans. The dosage of the compounds of the invention should lie within a range of circulating concentrations with little or no toxicity. The dosage may vary within this range depending on the dosage form employed and the route of administration.

15 **Phosphotyrosine Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay**

This assay may be used to test the ability of the compounds of the invention to inhibit dephosphorylation of phosphotyrosine (pTyr) residues on insulin receptor (IR). Those skilled in the art will recognize that other substrate molecules, such as platelet derived growth factor receptor, may be used in the assay by using a different 20 target cell and anchoring antibody. By using different substrate molecules in the assay, the activities of the compounds of this invention toward different protein tyrosine enzymes may be assessed. In the case of IR, an endogenous kinase activity is active at low level even in the absence of insulin binding. Thus, no insulin is needed to stimulate phosphorylation of IR. That is, after exposure to a compound, 25 cell lysates can be prepared and added to microtiter plates coated with anti-insulin receptor antibody. The level of phosphorylation of the captured insulin receptor is detected using an anti-pTyr antibody and an enzyme-linked secondary antibody.

Assay methods in determination of compound-PTP IC50

The following *in vitro* assay procedure is preferred to determine the level of activity and effect of the different compounds of the present invention on one or more of the PTPs. Similar assays can be designed along the same lines for any PTP using techniques well known in the art.

- 5 The catalytic assays described herein are performed in a 96-well format. The general procedure begins with the determination of PTP optimal pH using a three-component buffer system that minimizes ionic strength variations across a wide range of buffer pH. Next, the Michaelis-Menten constant, or K_m , is determined for each specific substrate-PTP system. This K_m value is subsequently used as the
- 10 substrate reaction concentration for compound screening. Finally, the test PTP is exposed to varying concentrations of compound for fifteen minutes and allowed to react with substrate for ten minutes. The results are plotted as percent inhibition versus compound concentration and the IC_{50} interpolated from the plot.

The following materials and reagents are used:

1. Assay Buffer is used as solvent for all assay solutions unless otherwise indicated.

Component	Concentration
Acetate (Fisher Scientific A38-500)	100 mM
Bis-Tris (Sigma B-7535)	50 mM
Tri's (Fisher Scientific BP152-5)	50 mM
Glycerol (Fisher Scientific BP229-1)	10% (v/v)

*1 mM DTT is added immediately prior to use

- 5 2. 96 Well Easy Wash Plate (Costar 3369)
3. p-Nitrophenyl Phosphate (Boehringer Mannheim 738-379)
4. Fluorescein Diphosphate (Molecular Probes F-2999)
5. 0.22µm Stericup Filtration System 500 ml (Millipore SCGPU05RE)
6. 10N NaOH (Fisher Scientific SS255-1)
- 10 7. 10N HCl (Fisher Scientific A144-500)
8. Compounds were dissolved in DMSO (Sigma D-5879) at 5 or 10 mM concentrations and stored at -20°C in small aliquots.

Methods:

All assays are performed using pNPP or FDP as substrate. The optimum pH
15 is determined for each PTP used.

PTP assay

PTPase activity is assayed at 25°C in a 100-µl reaction mixture containing an appropriate concentration of pNPP or FDP as substrate. The reaction is initiated by addition of the PTP and quenched after 10 min by addition of 50 µl of 1N NaOH.

20 The non-enzymatic hydrolysis of the substrate is corrected by measuring the control without the addition of the enzyme. The amount of p-nitrophenol produced is determined from the absorbance at 410 nm. To determine the kinetic parameter, K_m , the initial velocities are measured at various substrate concentrations and the

data are fitted to the Michaelis equation where velocity = $(V_{\max} * [S]) / (K_m + [S])$, and $[S]$ = substrate reaction concentration.

Inhibition studies

The effect of the compounds on PTP is evaluated at 25°C using pNPP or FDP as substrate. PTP is pre-incubated for fifteen minutes with various concentrations of compound. Substrate is then added at a fixed concentration (usually equal to the K_m previously calculated). After 10 minutes, NaOH is added to stop the reaction. The hydrolysis of pNPP is followed at 410 nm on the Biotek Powerwave 200 microplate scanning spectrophotometer. The percent inhibition is calculated as follows: Percent Inhibition = $[(\text{control signal} - \text{compound signal}) / \text{control signal}] \times 100\%$. The IC50 is then determined by interpolation of a percent inhibition versus compound concentration plot.

Plasmids designed for bacterial GST-PTP fusion protein expression are derived by insertion of PCR-generated human PTP fragments into pGEX vectors (Pharmacia Biotech). Several of these constructs are then used to subclone phosphatases into pFastBac-1 for expression in Sf-9 insect cells. Oligonucleotides that are used for the initial amplification of PTP genes are shown below. The cDNAs are prepared using the Gilbo BRL superscript preamplification system on RNAs purchased from Clontech.

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CONCLUSION

One skilled in the art would readily appreciate that the present invention is well adapted to carry out the objects and obtain the ends and advantages mentioned, as well as those inherent therein. The molecular complexes and the methods, procedures, treatments, molecules, specific compounds described herein are

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the invention disclosed herein without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention.

All patents and publications mentioned in the specification are indicative of the levels of those skilled in the art to which the invention pertains. All patents and publications are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each
5 individual publication was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

The invention illustratively described herein suitably may be practiced in the absence of any element or elements, limitation or limitations which is not
10 specifically disclosed herein. Thus, for example, in each instance herein any of the terms "comprising," "consisting essentially of" and "consisting of" may be replaced with either of the other two terms. The terms and expressions which have been employed are used as terms of description and not of limitation, and there is no intention that in the use of such terms and expressions of excluding any equivalents
15 of the features shown and described or portions thereof, but it is recognized that various modifications are possible within the scope of the invention claimed. Thus, it should be understood that although the present invention has been specifically disclosed by preferred embodiments and optional features, modification and variation of the concepts herein disclosed may be resorted to by those skilled in the art, and that such modifications and variations are considered to be within the scope
20 of this invention as defined by the appended claims.

In addition, where features or aspects of the invention are described in terms of Markush groups, those skilled in the art will recognize that the invention is also thereby described in terms of any individual member or subgroup of members of the
25 Markush group. For example, if X is described as selected from the group consisting of bromine, chlorine, and iodine, claims for X being bromine and claims for X being bromine and chlorine are fully described.

In view of the degeneracy of the genetic code, other combinations of nucleic acids also encode the claimed peptides and proteins of the invention. For example,
30 all four nucleic acid sequences GCT, GCC, GCA, and GCG encode the amino acid

alanine. Therefore, if for an amino acid there exists an average of three codons, a polypeptide of 100 amino acids in length will, on average, be encoded by 3^{100} , or 5×10^{47} , nucleic acid sequences. Thus, a nucleic acid sequence can be modified to form a second nucleic acid sequence, encoding the same polypeptide as encoded by the first nucleic acid sequences, using routine procedures and without undue experimentation. Thus, all possible nucleic acids that encode the claimed peptides and proteins are also fully described herein, as if all were written out in full taking into account the codon usage, especially that preferred in humans. Furthermore, changes in the amino acid sequences of polypeptides, or in the corresponding nucleic acid sequence encoding such polypeptide, may be designed or selected to take place in an area of the sequence where the significant activity of the polypeptide remains unchanged. For example, an amino acid change may take place within a β -turn, away from the active site of the polypeptide. Also changes such as deletions (e.g. removal of a segment of the polypeptide, or in the corresponding nucleic acid sequence encoding such polypeptide, which does not affect the active site) and additions (e.g. addition of more amino acids to the polypeptide sequence without affecting the function of the active site, such as the formation of GST-fusion proteins, or additions in the corresponding nucleic acid sequence encoding such polypeptide without affecting the function of the active site) are also within the scope of the present invention. Such changes to the polypeptides can be performed by those with ordinary skill in the art using routine procedures and without undue experimentation. Thus, all possible nucleic and or amino acid sequences that can readily be determined not to affect a significant activity of the peptide or protein of the invention are also fully described herein.

The invention has been described broadly and generically herein. Each of the narrower species and subgeneric groupings falling within the generic disclosure also form part of the invention. This includes the generic description of the invention with a proviso or negative limitation removing only one subject matter from the

Other embodiments are within the following claims.

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. An isolated, enriched or purified nucleic acid molecule encoding a phosphatase polypeptide, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide
5 sequence that:
 - (a) encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24;
 - 10 (b) is the complement of the nucleotide sequence of (a);
 - (c) hybridizes under stringent conditions to the nucleotide molecule of (a) and encodes a naturally occurring phosphatase polypeptide;
 - (d) encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID
15 NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, except that said polypeptide lacks one or more, but not all, of an N-terminal domain, a C-terminal catalytic domain, a catalytic domain, a C-terminal domain, a coiled-coil structure region, a proline-rich region, a spacer region and a C-terminal tail; or
 - 20 (e) is the complement of the nucleotide sequence of (d).
2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, further comprising a vector or promoter effective to initiate transcription in a host cell.
- 25 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is isolated, enriched, or purified from a mammal.
4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 3, wherein said mammal is a

5. The nucleic acid probe of claim 1 used for the detection of nucleic acid encoding a phosphatase polypeptide in a sample, wherein said phosphatase polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

6. A recombinant cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 encoding a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

7. An isolated, enriched, or purified phosphatase polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having

(a) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24; or

(b) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, except that the polypeptide lacks one or more, but not all, of the domains selected from the group consisting of an N-terminal domain, a C-terminal catalytic domain, a catalytic domain, a C-terminal domain, a coiled-coil structure region, a proline-rich region, a spacer region, and a C-terminal tail.

8. The phosphatase polypeptide of claim 7, wherein said polypeptide is isolated, purified, or enriched from a mammal.

9. The phosphatase polypeptide of claim 8, wherein said mammal is a
5 human.

10. An antibody or antibody fragment having specific binding affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide or to a domain of said polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide is a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected
10 from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

11. A hybridoma which produces an antibody having specific binding
15 affinity to a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

20 12. A kit comprising an antibody which binds to a polypeptide of claim 7 or 8 and negative control antibody.

13. A method for identifying a substance that modulates the activity of a phosphatase polypeptide comprising the steps of:

25 (a) contacting the phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23,

(c) determining whether said substance modulates the activity of said polypeptide.

14. A method for identifying a substance that modulates the activity of a phosphatase polypeptide in a cell comprising the steps of:

(a) expressing a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24;

(b) adding a test substance to said cell; and

(c) monitoring a change in cell phenotype or the interaction between said polypeptide and a natural binding partner.

15. A method for treating a disease or disorder by administering to a patient in need of such treatment a substance that modulates the activity of a phosphatase having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of cancers, immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of cancers of tissues; cancers of hematopoietic origin; diseases of the central nervous system; diseases of the peripheral nervous system; Alzheimer's disease; Parkinson's disease; multiple sclerosis; amyotrophic lateral

sclerosis; viral infections; infections caused by prions; infections caused by bacteria; infections caused by fungi; ocular diseases, metabolic disorders, and diabetes.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein said disease or disorder is selected
5 from the group consisting of migraines; pain; sexual dysfunction; mood disorders; attention disorders; cognition disorders; hypotension; hypertension; psychotic disorders; neurological disorders; dyskinesias; metabolic disorders; and organ transplant rejection.

10 19. The method of claim 15, wherein said substance modulates phosphatase activity *in vitro*.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said substance is a phosphatase inhibitor.
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21. A method for detection of a phosphatase polypeptide in a sample as a diagnostic tool for a disease or disorder, wherein said method comprises:

(a) contacting said sample with a nucleic acid probe which hybridizes under hybridization assay conditions to a nucleic acid target region of a phosphatase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, said probe comprising the
20 nucleic acid sequence encoding said polypeptide, fragments thereof, or the complements of said sequences and fragments; and
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(b) detecting the presence or amount of the probe:target region hybrid as an indication of said disease.

cardiovascular disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein said disease or disorder is selected
5 from the group consisting of cancers of tissues; cancers of hematopoietic origin; diseases of the central nervous system; diseases of the peripheral nervous system; Alzheimer's disease; Parkinson's disease; multiple sclerosis; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; viral infections; infections caused by prions; infections caused by bacteria; infections caused by fungi; and ocular diseases.

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24. The method of claim 21, wherein said disease or disorder is selected
from the group consisting of migraines, pain; sexual dysfunction; mood disorders; attention disorders; cognition disorders; hypotension; hypertension; psychotic disorders; neurological disorders; dyskinesias; metabolic disorders; and organ
15 transplant rejection.

25. A method for detection of a phosphatase polypeptide in a sample as a diagnostic tool for a disease or disorder, wherein said method comprises:

(a) comparing a nucleic acid target region encoding said phosphatase
20 polypeptide in a sample, wherein said phosphatase polypeptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those set forth in SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, and SEQ ID NO:24, or one or more fragments thereof, with a control nucleic acid
25 target region encoding said phosphatase polypeptide, or one or more fragments thereof; and

(b) detecting differences in sequence or amount between said target region and said control target region, as an indication of said disease or disorder.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein said disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of cancers, immune-related diseases and disorders, cardiovascular disease, brain or neuronal-associated diseases, and metabolic disorders.

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27. The method of claim 25, wherein said disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of cancers of tissues; cancers of hematopoietic origin; diseases of the central nervous system; diseases of the peripheral nervous system; Alzheimer's disease; Parkinson's disease; multiple sclerosis; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; viral infections; infections caused by prions; infections caused by bacteria; infections caused by fungi; and ocular diseases.

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28. The method of claim 25, wherein said disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of migraines, pain; sexual dysfunction; mood disorders; attention disorders; cognition disorders; hypotension; hypertension; psychotic disorders; neurological disorders; dyskinesias; metabolic disorders; and organ transplant rejection.

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29. A nucleic acid that encodes a mammalian phosphatase or a fragment thereof selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12.

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[illegible]

[illegible]

CCAAATGAACCTGTCCCTGCTGTCTCAGAGGGGTGGACAGAAAAGCAGAGAGGCTCTCAGGCCCAACCTGTGC
CAGCTCTGCTTAAGCTCAGAGGCAGCAGGACAAAAGCGCTGCTATCTCCGCCAGGCTGCCCAAGCTCCCAAGC
TCCAGCCGCTGGCTGTTAGAGGACAGCGCGCTGCTACAGGCTCAGTGGCTCCACCTGTCCGCAGAGAGG
CTGGAGAGACAGCAATTAAGCTCAAAGCTGCTCTCTCTGGAATATCAAAACAGCTTTCATATTTAGCCCAAGCAT
GGCAGATCTCTTACATTTGGTTCTCTCTTACAGAGAGATGGTTTGGGAATATCAAAAGCTTCCACTATCTTGG
ATGGCAACCAAGAGCTATGCTAGTTCTCTCCCTGTTCCAGGAATATATGGAGCAGATCCCGAAGCAGTCCCT
GATTAAGAGAGAGGCCAGCATCTCCCAAGAGAGCTCCAGCTGCTCAGGCTTCAGACAGCCAGACCAAGCCATTT
GATTTGGTTAGAGGAGCAAGAGGAGGAGGCTCCAGATGGCTTTATCTTCCAGTGCATGGAGTGGAGTGGAG
GCTGTAGAGAGCTTACCCACAGCAGCTCTCTTGGCTTTCCAGCCAGCAGGAGCATTTAGCAGAGCTCT
GCTGGCTCTGGCTTAAAGGCTCTCCAGAGATATCTTGGCTCCCAAGCTTTACCTCTCTCTTACAGCAG
CAGCTGGTATTTTGGCACAGAGTCTTCAACTTCTACTCTGCTCAGCCATCTTAGGAGGCGAGTGCCAATT
ATCTTCCAGCAGCTCCAGCTCAGCTGCTCCATTTGGGAGAGGAGCTTATTTCTCTGGCAGAGAGAGAG
CCAGTTCAGACAGCTTACTTCCGGGGAGGCTGGCATTAAGAGAGGCTTTTGAAGAGAGTTTAAAGCAG
AGCTTGCCAAATGGAGTTTGGAGAGAGCATTATCCAGAGAGAGGTTAGCGGAGAGAGCTGGGAAAGTGG
GCACTCAGTCTACTCTCTGGCAGCAATGGAAGCATTTGAGTCTCTCTTGAAGAGAAAGACACTTCTGAAT
CTATACAGCAATTTCTCTCTCTCTCTCAAAAAAATTCCTTGAATTTGAAGATATATATATGTACATACA
TATATATTTTTTGGAAATGGAGCTATCTTTAAAGTACAGCTTGGATCAAGCAGTTTACCTCTCTTAA
CATCTCAATTTAGAGAGCAATTAATATTAAGCT

SEQ ID NO:3 (SEP001)

[illegible]

SEO ID NO:4 (SEP 13)

GAAGAAGCCCTGAGGAAGGAGGTTGGCTGGTTCTCTCTCACTGGCCGGAGCCTCAGCTTCACTCACTTTCAT
CTGGGTCTCTCAGCCCTTGGTGGGGAACTATCAGGCAGGTTAGAGGTTAGTGTGCTTCTCCCTTGTCAAT
CTTGGTGAGGCCAGGAATTACAATACAAAGGGGCAGCGCTTTGCCCTGACTGTCAAGGCACAACTATGATC

[illegible]

A CAGAGG CAGA GGGGTGGGGGGGGCTGGC CCAT TGGT GAGAGCTT TCTTCCAGAG ACTGGGGGGGAGAGGACAA
A CCGAGG CCGT CCGCCAG CAGC CTG GAGCTT GAGGAG CTCCCTG DGGGCA CCGAAGT CTTT TTTCA CCGG TG
TGGACGA AGTTT CG CCGAAGCT TTT CATAGGA GATGG CGTCA CCGAAGAA CCGCGTTT GAGCTGTGGG TGG
CTGGGCATCAGGCA CTGTGCTGAAGG CCGCGGCA CAGAGG CCGTCTCTACTCTCTAGG CGGGGGGCTGACTTCTTACCG
CAGAGT CCGA CTTACCT GGGG CTCCAGACCCAC CA CCGT CCGT CAT TTT CA CAGCAGTG CTCTCTCTCTC
CTGGGGCTGAC TCCATC CAGCGTGGCGCTC ATAC CCGTGG CGC CAAAGT CTGT CTGCAC TGT CTG CTGGGG
CGGAGCG CCGTCTGCGCAG CTGGTCTCTGGCGTAC CCGTGGT CAGCAGCGGCTGT CCGT CCGGCGAGGGCGGT
CAT CAGC TCGA CCGAGCA CCGAT TGGT CCGT CCG CAG CCGCTCT CT CCA CTAG CCGT CCA CCGTGGAG
CTGGGCTCTCTTACTCTCTCTG CCGT CCGT CCGGCT CTGCGCA CTT TGG CAGCGT CCGAC CGAT CCGT CTG CTGGTCTGTG
GAGGCTCTGCGGCA CCG CCA CAGACAGAGCATG CTG CAAAG CCGAGC CT CCGG CTG CCGCTA GAGCGTCTGTA
CTCCATCTGGGCTCC TCGT CG CCGCTACACCGGCTCT CAT CCACTGT CTT CAG TCT CCA CAGAAACAGCATC
AAGTGTG CCGAGACAGCGGCGCTGAAAG CAGCTAGCA CCAACT CCGCGTCCAGAGAA CCG CACA CCGTGGGGCG
AGATACT CCGACAGGT CG CCG CATATT CTGGCTGG CG CCGAAGAA CCGAGG CCGGCA CCGT CCGTGACTCTCTT
CAG CCGAG CAGATGCGTGAAG CAGGCTAC CTGAGC DGG CTG CCG CCGT CACA CCGAGT CCG CCG CTGAGT CCG
GGGGGATGAGCTCA CTGCAGAA CAGGAGCTCTCGGAGGGCG CAGGATCCATGGGGCGAGTCCAG CCACTCTCC
TAGCAGT CCGGCGACATT CCGCTCTG CTG CA CCGCT TGGCTT CAGTCC CCA CCGT CCGACAT GAACCATAT
CGATGAG CTCTGGG CCGAGCTCTCTCTGGGAGAT CCGTCT CCA CCG CCG CAGAGA CCG CCGTCCAGT
CGGGAATCAGCCAC CTGTGTGAATCGCGCTCGAGGCAAGTTCCAGGT CCGACAGG CCGCA CATTCTTACCGT
CGATGT CCGCGAGCTATTA TCGCATCGAGGT CCGAGCAGAG CCGT CCGTCCAGC CAGT CCGTACTCTCT
GCG TGGT CCGTGAATACAT CCGA CCGTGGCGCGAGT CTCTCC CAGAG CAGTGGGCGATG GGTGGT TCTCTCTCC
CAGA CCG CT CCG CCG CTCA CCG CA CCGT CCGATCTTAA CTGGCTCTCTCTTACA CCGCGG CTG CCGCTA
CAG TGTG CCGT CCGG CTATGG CCG CCG CAGAC CTCTCT CTGGCGCTCTCTCATGATCTGTGAGAGACCGAC
GCTCTTA CAGGCGCATCCA CAGG CTG CAG CCGCAC CCGAATATCTGGCGTAACTCA CCGTCTCTCTCGGCGAGC
CTCAGGT CTGTCAGACATCC CACT CCG CCGGGAGACCGGGCGCTCTCTGATCTGGCAGGCA CCGCAGGACCGT
AGC CTCTGGC CCGAAC CCGACCGCT CCGCGTGGGAAAC CAGGCTCTGGCTCTCTCTAGTGA CCGTGAAGT
TAAACAGCA AGTGG CCGCTGAG CCGACAGCAGGCAAGCT CCGTGGTGAAGCTCTTGAAG CCGTGGGATCTCC
TGAC CCACTTCAGA CAGCTCTTATG CAAAGTGAAGTCCA CCGCATCTCTATATAAATATTCACTCTCA

AATGTCGCGCGGGAATGCGGCTCTTGGGCTCTCATGACGCTTCAAGCGCGGCTTCTGCGGAGTAGGCTCAAGGTC
 TCGTGTTCGAAGCTCGAGGGAGCGCTGGAGGAGATGCCATCCCTTCACCATCTCTTCTGAGGTCGAGGCGCT
 TCGGCGGCTCTCTCTACACAGGCAACAACCGCTGTATCCATGCGAGCGAGGCTTGGGCGAGCGCGCTATCTC
 GGAGACCGAGGACATGGCTAACAAACCGCGGGAGCTTCGCGCGCTTGGGCGATCAAGCAAGTCTCTCAATGCGCTC

[illegible]

SEQ ID NO: 8 (GGP003)

[illegible]

SEP ID NO:9 (SGP039)

ATGATAGAGGATACAAATGACTTTGGCTGGTCTGTGGCTGGGTGGCATCATGTCGGCTACTTCTCTGGCTGAGACDDCGA
GACGCTTTTCTGGTGTGTGTGATCAGCTTGGCTCTATGGAGTTTACTTCTTCCACACCGAGAGGTGAAGACCA
TGGTGAAGTGTAGCGGGGGAAGCGGTGAAATGTGTGTGAAGAGCAAGGTAGCGGAGACCATGCAATGCAATGAGATGGA
CTGGGAGGGCTGTGATGTGGTGTGAGGGGGGAGTTTTCGAAAGACCTGGGAGATTCGAGAAACACACAGCTGGGGGT
GTAATCCATCCAGGGGGGAGAGAACACATGAGGGAGCGCTTGGAGTCTGCAAGGATCTGGGCGAACAAGA
CGACACCGGTCCATCTTTGGGGATCTTTGGAGGGGACCGGGGAGAGACTGACAGCTGAATATGTAAAAATCTTGA
CTCCACAGGGCTCTTAAACAGCAATCTTCAGGACTACGAGAAAGACAAAGAAATAGTGTATTTATCTTAACCA
GACCATCTGTGAACAGCAGACTTGTGCAATGACGAGCAAAATGTGTAGAAAAATGTGACTGTATGCTATGATG
AAGCAGGGCACAAAGCTGTGTGATTGGCTCTGCTATTCAGATAAAGACCTCACTGTGGGGCAACGTTGGTGTACCTG
CGGGGGGTCTCTGTGTGACAAAGATGGGAACGCTATCTCTTGGTCTCATGATCAGAAAGCCTTACCACTTGA
GGAAAGAAAGAGGATAAAGAGAGAGCGGTGGTTCATCAGTTTCAATGGGCTCTCTGAGGGTCCAGGGGAATCC
TGGCCATGCTCTGGTCTCTGGGGGATTTATCGCTGAAAAATCTTCAACGTGTGTATCCAGAGCCAGACATC
CTGACCTTGGACCTGGACAAAGCTTCAGGCTGAGTTTCATGATCTTGGCATCAGATGGTCTCTGGGATGCGTT
TAAATTAAGCAATTAATTCATTAATTAAGAGCTCTGGATTAATTCAGCTTGGATTAATTAAGAGCTCT
TAAATTAAGCAATTAATTCATTAATTAAGAGCTCTGGATTAATTCAGCTTGGATTAATTAAGAGCTCT
TAAATTAAGCAATTAATTCATTAATTAAGAGCTCTGGATTAATTCAGCTTGGATTAATTAAGAGCTCT

DOI: 10.1002/9781118344701.ch10

[illegible]

SEQ ID NO:11 (SGP012)

[illegible]

TCTGAAGGAGTGTGGGTGGACCTGTGTGTTCATTGTGCATAGATGCCACGCTGGAAAGTACCAAGCATCAAAA
 AAGTGTAGGCAATATATGCGCTATGCAACCTTAAATGAGAAACCCAGAGGAATTCATGCTTCAGCAGGAGAGCC
 AGTGTATCTCTGTGCATCAGTGTGACCTGTGTAGAGTCCAGCTTACTGTGTGTAATATCCAAAGTGTGAGCTATAA
 TGTGTATGCGCTATATTGAGAAACTGACAAATATAGACAGGGGACAGAAATCATAGGAGTGTGCTCCAAAT
 TAAGCATCCAAATGAGCTCAAAAGCTCAGACTCAGGTTCTCCTCACTGCCAATCTCTCCATGCAATTAATTTCT

SEQ ID NO:12 (SGP006)

MAIVTIQFAPPTSAASOSASNSBIEAGSEBDEKLNLSLSESEFFWYKCAALFLQGGGSPQQQORSLQHEPKHA
 GELPQFLQMINILLCEBRIKTAAPLESAWAEVRYKVVVYSSGROI TEENILLGTESSKESKICTICKV
 LFLWCEYTHLIGGGFESVSTAGTHIFKFNENQAMASAIQVLEKLEVAHEHNYFEGVALINATVYLSG
 ISSIQSIFHEWNAQCDEESTREDFALFVFFTEGETTEFLAYFKASSKMSQDLLNWTSEIRUELEHQQ
 KNLVELPLPILNILLILSQMHTSLIFTHIVIGSEWNASNIEKCCGVNYTHLITRELNHFFSLTAY
 ENIIVYELLTETLLAHWNEAYHEINKAKRNFSPKIVCKYGVSEFASSTVIAYAMELEFCWELLKAYNVVWQK
 ESITREHAGFKPQISEVEGLEASTQRNMINEQCCTSSLOQFVDEHACPGDELPLETFDGTSESOLPLEIK
 AZQGLQFLPQCFRILDPLEIFEDETOSIVLEDPPEEALIEIAZPFAEVHFAACQEQQSLOCEHEV
 MYLLEFGSPHESGSLIQVELTETLLGEGAGFEGQLITQIDQNIHISENLHINSIFSCINCEDEDAIFQIL
 NEVYFSYKSCADCMYPTASGAPEASFEPCEDPNAPATCTQPAFLPHITSSPVAHLASFSVPFEKFPASGTE
 DEFTLEPACCEPCTAGHAGAZLIPRSLIEPSETEPQIPKSLIEPISHQFIRHETAYIKIENISSE
 DEFFPAELPLFSHESSEKETTNSLQQHQBSEIQIQHAGLVEKEETIEHLESVPADIAFEPPEGPASTIE
 ASPEEQCTPAALEFLGLVHISQAGSEEPSEPAEACIEGGSILSPHIEVHIEPSSSESPHELYTICHTI
 TSSSSSSNLTSSSSSDGIHSEVKGKGLVKQRTQLETFELAGICTWSSPLKSHSLAPLCSLTETEDLSC
 LADHSTVAECQLTTLSSSSFLIEICQTERPFAATSPFSGKPALENLSPHSHSKS

SEQ ID NO:14 (SGP102)

MAHNGTQQLNTEFIVAILSCGLIVLIESPFTVENNTEHIFAHINCSPLNEFPLOGLVLIETHIQF
 CAHKKVDECSQKVVYIQSQQLVASSSSCFLTVLGLKLEKSPNNFHLACCFAPFEPFELCESEFQTL
 VTCISQFCLIVANTPTRLINLVGCTEIVNPELQQNGIGVYNASNTCPHEHIESSELRVFTHE
 CPOLKILFWLEKQULETEKAKASDQGVNCLAGISASATIAIAYVYNNHNSIDANSEVHEEPOLGHI
 FHELGQLIEYEHYFNQTEAGGFKKLLKLLHLLKLNLFVPAVSLGGQKSETHLSPECHDSASELAGQNV
 EPASVPEVLSVQPCILLSPINQALSSIELSADPEBDONKLEFQENIEHVSYSASNPASLRCFSSSEDA
 LRYNFPSTTLGQTKKLCQFSINQQLSECTPETSEDELLASIEYELQTAPESSSQSKRLHVPITSSSGTAPE
 LLSLFLPSCSVLENYHTSEFLGLSTSCQHLTSEAGLELKGWHSQILAPQCTSTFGLTOSWYFACHSSSEVYS
 ASAINQCSASYATSSQSLFVQCDVYSVTEPQFISDRADSEFQWLESEFLKQFFPESQQTPEGESHSE
 NHHLELCITWESQTSFSCHEHLETS

SEQ ID NO:15 (SGP001)

HELVTVQFSEFSESTSSPCAGIAGGSEBESQIFSSISEFLVYGALEFLPQNGSCCTIKSEPRNKAG
 HQQCHIQMPELLEEDNIEHAYLESTYQNEFENYVWSTHGHQDTBLSYLGHEFSSEHESCTGTGSIH
 HMAEDTLEHIDGSGSEVSTQNTNIEFENVAWAWWLLSLFLGLVAGAAVYVSGSLFLWYTYEHL
 NNTQSSNHNKNAAGVQSSEPSKLEFQIFTEFIEFETIEHKLHIESCHLEHIESPLETEHLENQVY
 CHLEHFEFENHNTIDQHTSPQIFEEVLEQSEWASNIHEDQNGCVYILITTEHLEHFEFQVLEVY
 NRYVTELELTHLAVNNTYKFLQKAPFGSCPTCHQVAVNSESASVIAVYHPEVLEAGNTYFERTYK
 RHQCTHEQIHEVQCHLASFLCLFGGSEHFWGIFSTEEFLSYDLVSIQSSQSCNIEYLLHESFPYLPQI
 K

SEQ ID NO:16 (SGP012)

HHAGTSCWYPSCHLISANTPIPKALPEVAINPQTEGCLLPQQRQDQWQVYHATRECEERDQYHSEDE
 ANTEAVQAPHLSPFSPQYSNNSAETESIPVEEIHSSAIAKQILHLLKEFGVADAPCECHIESAQ
 LIMEHIVHEFETHTCSVNTPEHIOQVAVLQFQAEHEDDETWNVPIAEPSVANTQGLERLGLT
 HILHAAAGTCVYDGBEYTGELIQHIGVENDIFENDISCHPEHAYCHHIFSCVFLSGFNLVSCLEGGSE
 JAVYVAVLMIFETWACIEALHTTPHAAVENDHFMPIIREINKHLEHLELLWFLCISALAHGEGTS
 SDUGATVIAIVLEQESASVLSQASDSEKTCASPIETLQCEHBEHLEQNKHGVELLSLNVQDGGWV
 SASSQGBELLLEDTVERITQIQNENHRYQAESVNRHIEELHLELSAAGSVQEPHEFLDSCAWESVC
 SHCWVLYQQLHNEFHHGGEREADONSSESTWDWNEHLEHIEKESKRYHAKSPGLADRSSEAGSKY
 TLEDEDQVSEASAPFNFOCRNDELTAERWPIYETQEGPHYDQVAGDSQCEPGAEAVGENHESDVSL
 QAVQAVHLEHQHKEGENKEEYVLESKSEDSALAHTELEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEH
 PLSAFWCAHPSVADSDCTVLCQCHESLSQAACHAGOSTONPTTHHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEHLEH
 HNYGETLAHQHEHILLESFSPVASMAYPAACCLGDEQVSHLSGHESSSLGGLIPQSQALPSSSMQSVL
 SCHTTLSCFAEGQSSNVGTSHKIFSLPADVLLPEHAFKEKEMQMHLEKHSFYQHEHLEASDNKSSLEK
 RHYVKEDEEDGVSEEDNTESAIGSEFYSSESUSCPPEETDCSSLAQCHVAGSEVYKENDSSINKWLS
 LETHEKPPFQSLWSGSSCKYTRSSLLRETESKSSNYFSKSQSEHVVHLLIPGKWQLCPHHEVYIFLH
 QCGQREAVLQHVYQDRLKEFPAGEPPALLFPEDFVLAHGRVPTTAHKLQVQGLGROGINTQVALL

SEQ ID NO: 18 (SGF014)

SEQ. NO: 19 (SCPT 60)

SEC ID: NO: 50 (SGP003)

SEQ ID NO: 21 (SGF039)

SEQ ID NO: 12 (SGP040)

REQ 1010: 15 SEF012

[illegible]

EGCNLSLSVLCQAGPLQASTQRVLLVEEGPVEDVQCQPLATFLALNWCVPARDVGTCLVVAEQLVAGCNA
HLVFOADTSKNAVLLPNLVPVTSYHLSLAVLGRNGIWSRVVTLACSTSAWHPALAPAFELPCTEMGV
KI PRGMFEGEDDQIQWYGLIATTNMSLPQPSWEAINHNWHDHYVRCFDSYLAILLPNFEYEDFWAMPERSWT
VPVGTEDCGFCKETCNGQLKLGPFVSLPRESVAAPTRYGFPPTINSTSAFSXPNAGVSLASVPLEFVMEGLV
SCVLTICAVLGLLCWRVYVQQRAGKNPESQELTAYILETHEFTPIESFFQSYBAKSAHANQAEFLQFEELK
EVGKEQPRILANYAANTTKNHYPHVLPLYESRVLTQLEGDFESDYINANFLXXXATPTHEQEETIASQAPL
KKTLENFWRIIVREIQVLIIMLTVMENEFVLCCHVWLTDSPTVTHEHTTHLLABEADDEWTKREFQLQH
MRAPRMFGLSSNSSGGWSMNCNSPPxxxPIESILFAFSSLLTMBLVQEQRATCGMGPILVHCTRAVWAWR
QCTGTVALLRLLQQLEEEQKVDVFHAVFAFWMHGPLMIQPLSQYVFLHICLLNKTLEGPFNISESWPISVM
NFAQACAKFAANANAGFLHEYELLQATFDEAGSYAPLPCTEQDSPISCESHWTLSLWKPMSCALQGGPS
GCDHMYLTCLAGPEELWELVWQHGAHVLSLCPLDAMEKPKQEFWPMEMQPIVTDVTVHWWAESSTVGLC
ALFRVIFVAFPMFIMSLPEGESRKEKRVQFLQFPYLI PCHETPATTTIPFLAAYCQCCSRGNSKYPOTLLSH
SSKGATQLCTFLAMEQLLQAGSECTVDVENVALQCSQACIOLMTPTLKQYIYLYNCLNSALADGLPLSRxx
xHWSLCPFGLCPVGWQGE

SEQ ID NO:24 (SEP024)

SEGVGWGTGCFIVTDAMLERIKHEKTVGNYAYATLMETQRNMVQAGEQCTSVHDALLEAVTCVNTKVPARN
LYAYIXKLTQIERGQNVIGVILKPKHITSSKAHISGFLSANLPCNNF